Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of diabetes on sarcopenia and mortality in patients undergoing hemodialysis

Version: 1 Date: 26 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Seok Hui Kang

Reviewer's report:

The authors evaluated "the impact of diabetes on sarcopenia and mortality in patients undergoing hemodialysis". The paper is interesting, but there are some concerns to be addressed as follows.

Major comment

The author evaluated the clinical association between DM and sarcopenia in HD patients. However, they did not show the association between sarcopenia and mortality in HD patients. Associations between DM and sarcopenia or mortality in HD patients are well-known. Originality for this manuscript may be a clinical significance of sarcopenia in HD patients. In fact, some studies investigated the association between sarcopenia and mortality in dialysis patients, they showed positive association. However, the author did not show these results in multivariate analyses. The author should add detailed explanation regarding non-association between sarcopenia and mortality in HD patients and revise conclusion section considering negative results. In addition, reviewer recommends subgroup analyses according to age group or the presence of DM, these analyses may explain negative results.

Minor comment

Page 7, line 118: the arteriovenous fistula may be exchanged to "arteriovenous fistula or graft".

Page 7, line 120: Which machine for hand grip strength was used (for example, Takei or Sportstek)? Two references (ref 12 and 13) also did not explain the machine for hand grip strength. As far as I know, Takei is most popular machine for hand-grip strength in Japan.

Page 8, line 141: The author should add statistical software and version such as SPSS ver 23, SAS ver 20…

Page 9, line 152: Can the author add the data regarding dialysis adequacy or dialysis modality (HD or HDF)? These variables would be associated with prevalence or incidence of sarcopenia.
Page 10, line 168: Can the author add the data regarding cause of death (cardiovascular disease, infection, malignancy..)? These data may be helpful to understand the clinical impact of sarcopenia in HD patients.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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