Reviewer's report

Title: Health related quality of life of dialysis patients in Malaysia: Haemodialysis versus Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis

Version: 1 Date: 17 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Marjorie Wai Yin Foo

Reviewer's report:

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Comments to author

1. On the page of methodology, line 51, total number of CAPD and HD should add up to 163 not 173 as written (90HD/73 CAPD). One sentence from conclusion page line 36-37 "a longitudinal study is obligatory to determine a causal relationship" this sentence is not true and would recommend deletion.

2. Can the author comment on the difference in centre recruitment? Federal vs state especially in terms of care provided e.g does the bigger centre provide more services to the patients like 24 hour on call etc.

it would be good to describe briefly the services rendered /available in the program for the PD patients, like home visits etc reimbursement

3 The comorbidities appears to have been collected from patient self reporting, I would strongly suggest using a standardised scoring like Charlson comorbidity index or other standardised index rather that from patient self reporting or recollection
4. In your discussion and comparison to reference 18 (Yang F et al), the scores on utility scoring were very different I believe 0.5-0.6 vs your cohort of 0.8 to 0.9 which is near normal function, though there is no difference between modalities. It would be interesting to discuss the vast variation of perception of QOL, esp in similar Asian cohort

5. in Table 4, mean readings were shown but no SD value shown. The conversion of dialysis duration into categorical variable of 4 yrs, this duration was pick from my inference is to try to get the numbers even,

The problem is PD patients median time on dialysis usually around 48 months in best centres, I would assume that majority of the > 4 yrs would be HD patients and there are studies that showed that Qol decline over time

6. the comorbidities are not standardised and not defined and scored according the severity

7. the paper would be more impartial if there is comparison to other studies using the same ED-5D score

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.
Yes

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?
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I am able to assess the statistics

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