Reviewer's report

Title: Developing nephrology services in low income countries: A case of Tanzania

Version: 0 Date: 12 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Keith Norris

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript entitled "Developing nephrology services in low income countries: A case of Tanzania".

This is a well written and important article that captures the key strategies, achievements and some of the current challenges facing the provision of nephrology services care in Tanzania. Importantly, the lessons learned can serve as a model for implementing modern nephrology and other health services in resource limited settings

Comments

I think this manuscript would benefit from a paragraph that provides an overview of the national health system in Tanzania to convey a better understanding of the context of the nephrology health services. Is there an infrastructure for and/or are there other similar resources directed at major non-communicable disease that are important CKD and CVD risk factors - HTN, diabetes? (how prevalent)? Or is much of the CKD related to irreversible AKI? This will enhance the ability to translate to other settings.

I think the lessons learned could potentially serve as a model for implementing not only modern nephrology services in resource limited settings but services for other major clinical conditions.

Burden of kidney diseases in Tanzania

Line 10 "slightly higher prevalence in urban setting (15%) as compared to rural setting (2%)."

15% compared to 2% is more than slightly

Ref 17 add year - 2016

Ref 29 add year - 2018
Table 1
Add estimated population in each region

Table 2
Under discipline, second row spelling of nephrology
Legend - spell out abbreviations: UCT UiB, MUHAS, etc.

**Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box?**
As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.

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Yes

**Are the methods appropriate and well described to allow independent reproduction of experiments?**
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NA
Are you able to assess the statistics?
- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
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Yes: I think this provides important lessons learned that are highly translatable
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