Author’s response to reviews

Title: Epidemiology and outcomes of children with renal failure in the Pediatric ward of a tertiary Hospital in Cameroon

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RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS REPORTS

1. Please rename your ethics section in your declarations to be "Ethics approval and consent to participate”

2. In this section, please clarify if patient data was de-identified before you obtained it

Answer: We have arrange the section in the declaration section as follow in page 9: “Ethics approval and consent to participate: Ethic approval was obtained from the ethical board of the Douala University, and administrative authorization from the Douala General Hospital. In addition, patient data were de-identified before collection.”

3. In order to be in line with journal requirements, please include the following headings within your manuscript: Background, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions

Answer: Corrections done in the various sections as suggested.
4. Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. Seeing as this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in your "consent for publication” section

Answer: correction done on page 9

5. Please provide a list of all the abbreviations used in the manuscript. This list should be placed just before the Declarations section. All abbreviations should still be defined in the text at first use.

Answer: We have included the list of abbreviations before the declaration section in page 8 as followed: “AKI= Acut Kidney Injury, CKD= Chronic Kidney Disease, SSA= Sub Saharan Africa, eGFR= estimated Glomerular Filtration Rate “

6. Please represent authors’ names using their full initials, not their full name, in the Authors’ Contributions section. If there are any duplicated initials, please differentiate them to make it clear that the initials refer to separate authors.

Answer: correction done, all authors names are in full initials in the section on authors contribution on page 9.

7. We would also like to ask for you to provide more justification for the contributions of EB, HF, BKM and CAA as currently they do not automatically qualify for authorship. Contribution to the listed tasks alone, does not usually justify authorship.

An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. According to the ICMJE guidelines, to qualify as an author one should have:

a) made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; AND

b) been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND

c) given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content; AND

d) agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.
Anyone listed as an author must be included in this section. If you choose to change your author list you will need to fill out a change in authorship form and send it by email to the Editorial office to be approved by the Editor. The form can be found here: https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/editorial-policies#authorship.

Answer: Dear editor, we thanks you for the pertinent remarks and we apologize that we did not specify in detail this section. We certified that this paper is a multidisciplinary one involving pediatricians in a word and nephrologists. All pediatrician contributed for the acquisition of data and de-identification of patient’s files, because the children were their patients in their various consultations. We have therefore provided more details in the contribution of each author on page 9 and hope that it is good this time.

Anyone who contributed towards the article who does not meet the criteria for authorship can be acknowledged in the ‘Acknowledgements’ section

Answer: thanks for the suggestion; but given the contribution of each in our setting, we wish to keep the list of our authors, because all the listed people deserves to be author on this paper and we hope sincerely that the journal accept it.

8. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Answer: we have uploaded a clean copy of the manuscript