Reviewer’s report

Title: Moon phases and Moon signs do not influence morbidity, mortality and long-term survival, after living donor kidney transplantation

Version: 0 Date: 08 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Michele De Rosa

Reviewer’s report:

Summary

In general, despite treating a peculiar and in my experience quite unusual topic, this is a well-written manuscript. We are not facing a pivotal subject of daily surgical practice, but this paper poses anyway an interesting view about the impact of superstition on clinical results.

Though the paper may seem "soft" to some readers, it may be agreed that there is a good number of papers in the literature investigating the role played by superstition on human activities and this manuscript could give some insight in the decision of the timing of living transplantation according to lunar phases, addressing patients' concerns about what is supposed to be a "wrong" timing for operation.

Some major issues, however, need to be raised:

Abstract: No comment

Title: No comment

Background: No comment

Patients and Methods

1. This is a retrospective cohort study from a prospectively collected database, but information about the selection criteria of the transplant procedures chosen from the total transplant database are not indicated.

2. The living donors clinical outcome is not evaluated. They represent the "healthy counterparts" of the transplant process and an adverse outcome is even more unacceptable, so the evaluation of their results is mandatory to conclude that moon phases and moon signs do not affect morbidity, mortality and long-term survival after living donor kidney transplantation.
Results

1. The absence of information regarding the surgical outcome of the living donors, who are fully involved in the whole transplant process, is a critical omission that needs to be rectified.

Discussion

1. Generally well written.

2. Limitations are clearly highlighted, but the absence of information regarding the surgical outcome of the living donors should be mentioned.

Figures and Tables

1. Figure 1 and 3 are probably not needed as the text explains them well.

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.

No

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

No

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

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