Reviewer’s report

Title: Resilience and quality of life in 161 living kidney donors prior to transplantation: Comparison of eligible and excluded donors in a cross-sectional study.

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Reviewer: Massimo Torreggiani

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In this paper, Erim and Colleagues aim to evaluate whether resilience of living kidney donors is an appropriate measure of their mental status and test the reliability of the standardized psychosomatic evaluation process that they use in case of living kidney donation.

The Authors show that eligible living kidney donors possess higher resilience values than the general population and compared to subjects excluded from donation for any reasons, even if excluded candidates showed values for resilience similar to the general population. All eligible kidney donor candidates had also higher values of quality of life compared to the general population.

This study is well conducted and its strength resides in the accurate stepwise evaluation of potential living kidney donors. Although higher resilience values were expected for donor candidates, the results show that, regardless the reason for which a few potential donors were excluded, the resilience values of this population was not different from the normative one. The same is true for quality of life evaluation.

Major compulsory revisions:
I would suggest the Authors to discuss a little further the reasons for such a low exclusion rate of donors in such a large population of candidates (for instance: is there a sort of pre-screening that identify couples more suitable for living donation when kidney transplant option is presented for the first time to CKD patients? In other words, given the availability of a donor, is the option of a living donor kidney transplant offered to all patients?).

It would be interesting to know how many recipients were already on dialysis and how many were offered a pre-emptive kidney transplant in order to understand whether the motivation of donors changes with the clinical conditions of the recipient and his dependency from dialysis.

Minor essential revisions:
None.

Discretionary Revisions:
None.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests