Dear section editor, assigned editor, and reviewers,

We are very pleased that you offered us an opportunity to revise our work entitled “Meta-analysis: urinary calprotectin for discrimination of intrinsic kidney injury and prerenal acute kidney injury” for Journal of Clinical Medicine. The comments and insights were a tremendous help to us. In the revised manuscript, in accordance with the valuable suggestions of the reviewers, we have made some modifications. The major concerns of the reviewers have been fully addressed, and the entire manuscript has been carefully revised. All the revised words and sentences were highlighted by Track Changes. We hope that the revised manuscript will fulfill the requirements of reviewers and you will judge the revised manuscript to be suitable for publication in Journal of Clinical Medicine.

Yours sincerely,

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Point 1: Abstract: In the conclusion, “identification” has to be exchanged by “discrimination” of intrinsic and prerenal AKI, since the low calprotectin concentration in prerenal AKI is similar to healthy controls.

Response 1: We thank you for your kind words and your precious time to review our article. According to your suggestion, we have modified our abstract (line 30).

Point 2: The clinical limitations of this new biomarker, however, should be presented more precisely in a separate paragraph. The two major limitations are urogenital malignancies and urinary tract infections, which increase urinary calprotectin concentrations independent of acute kidney injury. The correct interpretation of measurement findings thereby necessitates an exclusion of UTI. These two limitations should be included in the abstract as well.

Response 2: Thanks for your kindly reminder. We have revised the abstract (line 31) and limitation (line 299).

Point 3: The authors should add the fact that the available immunostainings of the clinical studies suggest that rather the inflammatory infiltration than the tubular epithelial cells is the major source of urinary calprotectin in AKI.

Response 3: Thanks for your valuable suggestions. We modified the section of discussion (line 255).

Point 4: Reference 16 is cited incorrectly. Please change citation style and correct name of first author Basiratnia.

Response 4: We thank you for your inspection. We have changed our citation (line 425).