Reviewer’s report

Title: KPC - 3 Klebsiella pneumoniae ST258 clone infection in postoperative abdominal surgery patients in an intensive care setting: analysis of a case series of 30 patients.

Version: 3 Date: 4 February 2013

Reviewer: Antonella Agodi

Reviewer's report:

The present paper is certainly of interest to the scientific community and the study design is appropriate to achieve the objectives, it describes a well-constructed study and provides interesting findings on clinical outcome of ICU patients with severe infections caused by Klebsiella pneumonia. The methodology is appropriate. However, the scientific message may be improved by the following corrections:

Minor Essential Revisions

Background section
Please provide, if possible, other reference on the emergency of Kpc ST258 outbreaks especially in Italy.

The objective(s) of the study is not stringent and clear. The objective(s) of the study should be better stated, please clarify.

Methods Section
The Authors stated that “An active surveillance program including routine surveillance cultures and screening of high risk patients on admission is being carried out in the Surgical Emergency Unit since January 2010.” Please provide references if a standard international protocol was implemented.

Discussion Section
- Please refer to limits of the study such as the small size of the sample

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:

None