Author's response to reviews

Title: Accuracy of Tracheal Aspirate Gram Stain in predicting Staphylococcus aureus infection in Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To the Editor

Thank you for the opportunity to resubmit the article.

We believe we have done the requests and suggestions given by the reviewers.

The manuscript was edited for proper English language, grammar, punctuation, vocabulary, spelling, and overall style by one or more of the highly qualified native English speaking editors at American Journal Experts. The certificate is attached (Certificate Verification Key: A883-78EF-0CA3-EA48-1B90).

The Abstract and Introduction were rewritten according to the suggestions.

We explain the Research Ethics Committee waiver in Methods section: The present study was approved by the Hospital de Clínicas de Porto Alegre Research Ethics Committee. The committee waived requirements for informed consent because it was obtained in a previous study with the same cohort.

CPIS and the older ATS VAP diagnosis guidelines are mentioned as limitations in the discussion section. We included the suggested reference in the discussion (Magill et al, CID 2013: 57).

We maintained the title of Table 2 (Table 2. Accuracy of Gram stain to predict Staphylococcus aureus in tracheal aspirate) because Sensitivity, Specificity, Positive Predictive Value, Negative Predictive Value, Positive Likelihood Ratio, Negative Likelihood Ratio, Pre-Test Probability, Post-Test Probability (Positive and Negative) are informed.

We included the suggestions in the rewritten Discussion section.

We hope that these changes meet the requirements.

Best wishes,

Renato Seligman
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