Reviewer’s report

Title: Antibiotic Resistance Patterns in Escherichia coli Urinary Isolates from Male versus Female Outpatients

Version: 1 Date: 18 December 2012

Reviewer: Christos Lionis

Reviewer’s report:

Many thanks for inviting me to review this manuscript. Please see my commentary below divided by section.

The Background section is well written. However, it requires some statements of any pre specified hypothesis. The authors are invited to state the specific objectives that guided this study.

The Methods section requires some re-structuring and I am suggesting the inclusion of some meaningful headings (such as, setting, participants, data sources/measurements and data analysis and ethics). The eligibility criteria of the primary care clinics and the patients from where cultures have been drawn should be clearly presented in the revised manuscript. The authors are also invited to report if any efforts to minimize potential sources of bias have been undertaken.

The Results section requires some re-structuring as the methods section, in including meaningful headings (such as, samples analyses and descriptive data, outcome data and results).

The Discussion section could also include some meaningful headings (such as, key findings, interpretation of the study findings, limitations, impact on clinical practice). This section requires more efforts towards the overall interpretation of the key findings that should be also discussed under the light of evidence of the findings, reported from other primary care studies.

It would be a great pleasure for me seeing the revised manuscript for my final recommendation.

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'