Reviewer's report

Title: Comparative cost-efficiency of EVOTECH ECR versus Medivator DSD-201 in a real-world Canadian hospital endoscopy setting.

Version: 2 Date: 14 March 2011

Reviewer: Cesrae Hassan

Reviewer's report:

The Authors presented a microsimulation calculation of the cost of two different approaches for endoscope reprocessing, that is: manual cleaning+automated disinfection vs. cleaning automated+automated disinfection. The Authors showed the important saving of human resources when avoiding the manual cleaning. They also appropriately discussed the limitations of their interesting study in the discussion.

My only major criticism is the study approach that is not in agreement with the clinical expectations of this Journal readers. Indeed, it seems that the Authors simply wanted to show the superiority of one machine over the other, that is an industrial competition that is of no sense for clinician readers. Therefore, the Authors need to re-write the manuscript clarifying that the primary end-point was to compare the cost of two different approaches of reprocessing, citing only marginally and no more than 2-3 times in all the manuscript which machines were used to run this comparison. Probably, the analysis could be limited to the saving in technician time without providing further details on the cost of consumables. the latter is again more an industrial competition rather than a clinical message.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'