Reviewer's report

Title: Asymptomatic Bacteriuria, Antibiotic Use, and Suspected Urinary Tract Infections in Four Nursing Homes

Version: 3 Date: 22 May 2012

Reviewer: Rhonda Stuart

Reviewer's report:

. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? - Yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? - Yes but see below
3. Are the data sound? - Yes
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? -Yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? -Yes
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? See below
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? - Yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? - Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? - Yes

Overall this is a well written paper worthy of publication.

I have 2 comments - Major Compulsory Revisions

1) No mention has been made as to the number of residents with indwelling catheters in any of the nursing homes. Could it be that the presence of an IDC influences whether an antibiotic is prescribed? - this needs to be addressed in the manuscript.

2) Mention is made of urine studies performed and whether lab results are received prior to prescription but I am unclear if this takes into account urine results that are abnormal? Is it more likely antibiotics are prescribed for abnormal results? This needs to be clarified in the text

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