Reviewer's report

Title: Enterobacter nimipressuralis as a cause of Pseudobacteremia

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Reviewer: Zhiyong Zong

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This study described two cases of Enterobacter nimipressuralis pseudobacteremia due to the contamination of saline cotton swabs. This paper is easy to understand but a native English speaker is required to correct the written English. As E. nimipressuralis is rarely associated with clinical samples and the origin of the contamination had been identified, this paper is of interest and may be suitable for publication. However, several questions need to be answered and some revisions are required before being considered for acceptance.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. According to the authors, the two patients had normal temperatures on admission, though they complained “fever sensation”, and had no signs of bacteremia, it seems difficult to justify the necessity of the blood cultures at the very beginning. Did the patients and their doctors really need blood cultures for the diagnosis?

2. Both patients received ciprofloxacin though they did not have any relevant manifestations. This suggests that pseudobacteremia was not recognized at the early stage though an infectious diseases physician was monitoring the data everyday. It seems in contradiction with the conclusion that “The microbiologic cultures monitoring system will probably help us detect early pseudobacteremia.” The authors should provide explanations or need to revise the conclusions.

Minor Essential Revisions

3. The authors should provide more details about the 16s rRNA sequences including the identities to those of other E. nimipressuralis strains deposited in GenBank to prove the species identification.

4. Page 6, line 7, a reference should be cited for the IRS-PCR.

5. As E. nimipressuralis has not been associated with human infections, it may not be appropriate to call it as pathogen at all.

6. Table 1, for combinations such as piperacillin, the MIC values are not in the right formats.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.