Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence and acquisition of MRSA amongst patients admitted to a tertiary-care hospital in Brazil

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Ms Roxane Rajabi

We wish to thank for the dedicated suggestions the reviewer’s made for our paper, and we submitted the new text with the suggestions made by them.

The comments about the reviews are below:

**Referee 3: Mr. Ben Cooper**

Major compulsory revisions
None

Minor essentials revisions
1. We included two new tables with the results
2. OK, page 4
3. OK, page 5

Discretionary revisions
1. We maintained the last analysis, using log-binomial regression, and reviewed the reference suggested, including it in the references section.
2. We maintained our inclusion criteria for the variables in the multivariate analysis, because we believe that the number of events prevents the inclusion all the variables. In the review cited by Mr Cooper, the author cites the results of the simulation made by Peduzzi et all: “The results suggest that bias is unacceptably high when there are fewer than 10 to 15 events per predictor.” (Peduzzi PN, J Clin Epidemiol 1996).

Also, we noticed that we keep the Table 1 from the first version, and as we excluded patients with readmission, the numbers changed. We included the correct version of the Table 1.

Sincerely
Helena Barreto dos Santos