Reviewer's report

Title: MRSA prevalence in European healthcare settings: a review

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Reviewer: Birgit Strommenger

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In this review the authors analyzed a total of 31 published studies on MRSA prevalence rates in an endemic situation in different healthcare settings in eight European countries in order to compare prevalence rates for endemic MRSA in all kinds of healthcare sectors. However, due to a lack of published studies in the large variety of the "long-term care facility sector" this aim was achieved only in some extent. Nonetheless they presented data reflects a large variety of prevalence rates; the high degree of variation was partially associated with methodological differences between studies.

This study is very useful to evaluate results of different MRSA surveillance studies. It demonstrates very clearly methodological differences and their potential influence on prevalence data.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.