Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of a hand-held far-ultraviolet radiation device for decontamination of Clostridium difficile and other healthcare-associated pathogens

Version: 1 Date: 24 January 2012

Reviewer: Heike Martiny

Reviewer’s report:

1. Discretionary revisions
- throughout the text
-- change mj to mJ, where applicable
-- as dosis is defined by time also, it would be correct to change to x mJ/cm² (~ y seconds)
- headline line 195: please change to C. difficile Spores
- Authors´contributions: who is MJP?

2. Major Compulsory Revision

Material and Methods - Reduction of pathogens by Sterilray device - line 136: Please explain how you validated the method to make sure, that only the spore form is left. As with organic load you showed the inhibition in reducing the microorganisms it it inexplicit why the device works in reducing spores within stool.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.`