Title: Streptococcus gordonii septic arthritis: two cases and review of literature

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

We thank you for giving us the opportunity to revise the manuscript MS: 2133637499647244 *Streptococcus gordonii* septic arthritis: two cases and review of literature.

Please find enclosed the revised version, modified according to your comments, reviewers’ reports and specific style requirements.

You will find below answers to different questions and specific comments made.

Reviewers’ comments:

**Referee 1:** Dr Abdurhman S Alarfaj

1. The text needs to be revised with particular attention to linguistic use, style and terminology. The *English was revised as requested: corrections were made accordingly.*

2. The discussion part needs not to be subdivided. The *discussion was modified as requested. Subdivisions were deleted.*

3. We thank you for your suggestions. **All the attached comments were modified as suggested:** the term “about” was remove from title; “the most” was replaced by “are common” from background; the term “gonoarthritis” was replaced by “degenerative arthritis” on case 1; on case 2, “subfebrile” was clarified as follow “body temperature of 37.7°C”; in the discussion the sentence “in the case of Blankstein” was rephrased as “Blankstein et al. (18) described”. The sentence “We found no cases of *Streptococcus gordonii* described in was changed as requested.”

**Referee 2:** No modification was necessary

**Referee 3:** No modification is needed

**Referee 4:** Dr Gregory Firth

1. Concerning Grammar error: The *English grammar was revised. Corrections were made accordingly.*

2. Case number 2 - line 4 should read - ‘degenerative arthritis following a total knee arthroplasty 9 months prior to presentation.’ The *sentence was modified as suggested.*

3. I am unclear regarding the two culture techniques - were they the same - please clarify in the text. Both *culture techniques were the same, all synovial fluid*
were inoculated into aerobic Bactec bottles. This data was added. Blood cultures were also performing using Bactec system.

4. Case 2 - second paragraph - 'large tissue excision' should be replaced by 'soft tissue debridement'. **Changed as requested**

5. Case 2 - 2nd paragraph line 3 - 'the prosthesis replacement...' should rather read 'a revision knee arthroplasty was performed'. **The sentence was modified.**


7. Diagnosis: 2nd paragraph - ensure WBC is mentioned as either mm3 or /micro litres - should be consistent. **Revised.**

8. Diagnosis: 4th paragraph lines 11, 12 and 13 - MORE spelling errors. **These sentences were revised.**

9. Treatment: Ref 35 is from 1975 - surely there are more recent references that could be used when discussing the management of this condition? I think this part of the treatment is not relevant to this topic and should be excluded if no recent references can be found. **Reference 35 was deleted and more recent references were added as suggested.**

10. Treatment: Last paragraph line 5 - 'inferior' should read 'less than'. **Modified as requested.**

11. Conclusion: Last line - 'of any material' should read 'of prothesis': **modified as requested.**

We thank you for these helpful comments and corrections and hope that the revised manuscript may be considered suitable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jean Cyr Yombi