Reviewer's report

Title: Hand disinfection in a neonatal intensive care unit: Continuous electronic monitoring over a one-year period.

Version: 3 Date: 26 July 2012

Reviewer: Hugo Sax

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is now much clearer.

I have the following comments:

1. Abstract (p1, line 13): Indicate that study period for dispenser counts was 1 year if word count permits (even if it is mentioned in the title)

2. Page 2, line 18: objective 2 is still not clear regarding the connection between the two methods used in the study: What does "determine complaince with hand hygiene by direct observation in relation to the measurement of electronic devices" exactly mean? It appears that there is no relation between the two.

3. Page 4, line 4: For clarity reasons, these measures should be declared as ecological. Otherwise one could get the impression hand hygiene actions were actually attributed to individual patients/healthcare workers.

4. Page 4, line 9: The moment before invasive tasks has been left out here I think, but was mentioned in the discussion.

5. Page 5, line 22: This calculation needs more explanation (best in the Methods section). This calculation is of limited accurateness: see the following comment. Thus, the approximate nature should be declared.

6. Page 6, line 17: One important point is missing here: It may well be that many hand hygiene actions take place at moments that are not corresponding to any indication for hand hygiene. Thus they should not be counted.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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