Reviewer’s report

Title: Validation of the Chronic Disease Score-Infectious Disease (CDS-ID) for the Prediction of Hospital-Associated Clostridium difficile Infection (CDI) within a Retrospective Cohort

Version: 1 Date: 17 December 2012

Reviewer: Bodin Khwannimit

Reviewer’s report:

This is interesting and clinically important topic that validate new score for prediction of hospital associated Clostridium difficile infection.

This study has reasonable number of patients for screening but has low incidence of CDI (only 2.4%), thus, only 185 episodes of CDI were include to evaluated the performance of Chronic Disease Score-Infectious Disease (CDS-ID)

Major comments

1. The authors should be describe the impact or idea for evaluate CSD-ID in CDI when compare in previous studies validate this score in VRE and MRSA patients.
2. CDI defined as detection of C. difficile toxin in an unformed stool. How about the other test or investigation such as colonoscope or pathology finding. What is the false positive or false negative in this test?
3. Why the author validate age with CDI
4. CDS-ID and CDS-ID with age have the AUC 0.653 and 0.681, respectively. This is the appropriate score for discriminate CDI patients, the author should be discuss in this point.
5. Why high risk antibiotics has not effect in predicted CDI? (Table 3)

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

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' below