Reviewer’s report

Title: Analysis of S.epidermidis icaA and icaD genes by polymerase chain reaction and slime production: a case control study

Version: 1 Date: 8 May 2012

Reviewer: Rehab Mahmoud Abd El-Baky

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

In general:
- English language should be revised.
- Staph. epidermidis & Staph. aureus should be written in Italic.

S.epidermidis: S. epidermidis

A. Abstract:

Methods:
- Congo red test agar: should be Congo red agar test.
- Slime was examined and ……. By what? If authors means that slime was examined by Scanning electron microscope they should write that slime was examined by scanning electron microscope.

Results:
- S. epidermidis were received it is better to say (were collected).
- (This study has assisted in the development of new preventive and therapeutic measures to eradicate) Authors write this statement in conclusion, but they did not make any studies on how to prevent slime formation they can say rapid diagnosis for slime producing and methicillin resistant strains.
- Bloodstream: should be Blood stream

Study design:
- Authors said that 82 strains were collected by sterile swabs but in Abstract they said that 60 strains were collected from nasal vestibules and 22 blood samples were collected. How did you collect these samples?

Scanning electron micrograph:
- procedure for sample preparation for scanning electron microscope examination should be written with a reference.
- How can electron microscope show types of slimes? Figures contains images for slime producing strains and slime non producing strains (no typing) (types
PCR:
- icaA band should be at 198 bp or 188 bp. Please check?
- Authors said that PCR was done for 62 strains but in table 2 they did PCR for all isolates (82).
- Authors gave a comment only on group 1 but what about other groups?
- They did not write what groups are referring to below tables.

Discussion:
- They compared their results to others without any comment. They write references only without showing the differences between their results and results for others.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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'