Reviewer’s report

Title: The identification and epidemiology of meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus and Clostridium difficile in patient rooms and the ward environment

Version: 2 Date: 10 June 2013

Reviewer: JULIE WILSON

Reviewer’s report:

The paper is very well written and I have no suggestions Adressing each of the review criteria:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? YES
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? YES
3. Are the data sound? YES
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? YES
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? YES
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? YES
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? YES
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? YES
9. Is the writing acceptable? YES

Minor Essential Revision
1. The accepted naming convention for meticillin is now meticillin.

Discretionary Revision:
1. CMRSA is being used as an abbreviation for Canadian epidemic meticillin resistant S. aureus however this is not a universally recognised abbreviation and could be confused with ‘community’ MRSA.
2. HA is being used as an abbreviation for ‘hospital associated’. The more commonly used term is now ‘healthcare associated’.

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.