Reviewer's report

Title: Reappraisal of the outcome of healthcare-associated and community-acquired bacteramia: a prospective cohort study.

Version: 2 Date: 4 June 2013

Reviewer: M D Parkins

Reviewer's report:

Retmar (is this a new author – I have noted Gentil from the prior draft) et al describe a prospective cohort followed over a two month (?) period in 2006/7 of patients admitted to one of 15 hospitals in Andalusia, Spain with community onset bacteremias. They used database records to define these BSIs according to standard definitions as community acquired (CA) and health care associated bacteremia (HCA). 341 Total episodes were evaluated (192 HCA). The authors have revised the manuscript considerably. I still feel they could do a better job of explaining the two stages of this study in relation to their 2010 data – and the presentation of the data 7 years later.

Major Issues
1. Is this a 2 or a three month study – in abstract 2 months, in data set states Oct 1 – Dec 31 which would be three months.

Minor Issues
1. Outcome of “inappropriate therapy” needs to qualified by the fact that very broad spectrum therapy was generally used for HCA (carbs and b-lactam+inhibitor combinations were most commonly used. Which patients received >1 drug class needs to be commented on.

2. Definitions of ESBLs – how was this ascertained – all that is eluded to was 3rd gen ceph resistance. Still not explained.

3. In the conclusion - Inadequation?

4. S. pneumoniae penicillin resistance and inappropriate therapy needs to be better explained given the ability to overcome MIC, and preference to use penicillin still in non-CNS infections. Are there meaningful changes to the conclusions with these datapoints suppressed. Still not commented on.

5. The second last paragraph seems to fall apart …

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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'