Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 3 June 2013

Reviewer: Majdi Al-Hasan

Reviewer's report:

1- Higher mortality among HCA as compared to CA Gram-negative BSI needs to be highlighted in the abstract and Discussion section, with comparison to other studies of Gram-negative BSI. This may be followed by an explanation of why there was no difference in overall mortality of BSI, which is higher proportion of coagulase-negative Staph among HCA BSI.

2- The term HCA-CO is still used in Table 3.

3- Page 13, line 285: I disagree with the authors that amoxicillin-clavulanate is a first line agent for CA BSI. Resistance rates to amoxicillin-clavulanate and ampicillin-sulbactam among CA E. coli bloodstream isolates have approached 40% in many high-quality studies in the USA. The authors of such papers (and the IDSA guidelines for treatment of intra-abdominal infections) have recommended against the use of these 2 agents for serious CA E. coli (and other Gram-negative) infections. It is important to mention this in the Discussion section and cite the appropriate references to support this statement.

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