Reviewer's report

Title: Identification and characterization of vaginal lactobacilli from South African women

Version: 2 Date: 22 November 2012

Reviewer: Ming Zeng

Reviewer's report:

Authors have revised the manuscript and improvements can be seen from the revised version. However, still, the number of the samples is a major concern since it refers to the accuracy of the study. The reviewer still cannot be persuaded to accept a conclusion based on limited sample analysis.

Some other points need to be clarified:
1. Line 156, “16S ribosomal DNA (rDNA) gene” is not correct. You can call it either “16S ribosomal DNA” or “16S ribosomal RNA gene”.
2. You should abbreviate the genus name once it appears for species with same genus.
3. Accession number should be provided if you use published bacteria gene sequences.
4. Line 173, “gram stain” should be “Gram stain”.
5. Check again all the spells thru the manuscript.

The present form of the manuscript still needs a Major Compulsory Revisions before acceptance for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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.