Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of Vancomycin-Resistance on Mortality in Neutropenic Patients with Enterococcal Bloodstream Infection: a retrospective study

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Reviewer: Jo-Anne Young

Reviewer's report:

This research article examines vancomycin resistant enterococcus bloodstream infections. Comments include the following:

- The definition of an infection is isolation of enterococcus in two or more blood cultures obtained separately. Normally, I would consider this definition appropriate for skin bacteria such as coagulase negative Staphylococcus. However, since enterococcus originates in the gut, I would be in favor of a definition that included isolation of enterococcus in one or more blood cultures. However, in the discussion, the authors explain their reasoning for using two blood culture results. As a result, they have an inherently lower incidence rate, and that should be explicitly stated. They might want to state what their incidence rate would be if only one positive blood culture was added to the definition.

- The definition of a recurrent infection is isolation of enterococcus 60 days after a prior episode. It is not clear whether this is 60 days after the initial isolate, or 60 days after the last isolate.

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