Reviewer's report

Title: Profile of infective endocarditis observed over a 7-year period in a single centre in Italy

Version: 2 Date: 26 May 2013

Reviewer: Daniel C DeSimone

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Title--Spelling--change "Centre" to "Center"
2. Abstract under results section, "62,5% had native IE"--change to 62.5%
3. Background--Please describe what "invasive procedures" you are including in healthcare-associated infections. Please reference data that would support this statement.
4. Patient/Methods/--when putting in references, please using parenthesis ( ) and not brackets [ ]
5. Background--would consider using S. bovis rather than S. gallolyticus in connection with colon tumor association. Also, you used "S. bovis" in other areas of the manuscript.
6. Results/Microbiology section--use "MRSA" abbreviation.

Discretionary Revisions:
1. In the title--consider using dates 2003-2010, rather than "7-year period"
2. Discussion--consider mentioning use of rifampin in native-valve endocarditis--i.e. not guideline based, drug-drug interactions and hepatotoxicity. Could this have played a role in outcomes?
3. Discussion--consider discussing low rate of MRSA in your population--as it encompassed ~5% of 149 total cases, given high rate of IV drug users in this population--i.e. your hospital's MRSA infection rates.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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