Reviewer’s report

Title: Etiology and Outcome of Severe Community Acquired Pneumonia in Immunocompetent Adults.

Version: 1 Date: 14 August 2012

Reviewer: Feng Xu

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions#

The authors intended to address the etiology and outcome of severe community-acquired pneumonia in Pakistan patients. They found Staphylococcus aureus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa were the common causative pathogens in SACP patients and associated with high mortality. However, this study does not provide any significant new information to the existing literature.

1. The retrospective nature of the study diminishes the impact of the findings.
2. Although 189 patients were enrolled in this study, only 50 patients were detected with identified bacterial pathogens. The number is too small to reflect the epidemic status of SACP in Pakistan. The scale needs to be expanded.

Minor Essential Revisions:

In Discussion#paragraph 3: History of prior antitbiotic (antibiotic) use and hematocrit < 30% were independently associated with high mortality in our study.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.