Reviewer’s report

Title: Epidemiology, Species Distribution and Outcome of Nosocomial Candida Bloodstream Infection in Shanghai

Version: 1 Date: 6 August 2013

Reviewer: Shawn R Lockhart

Reviewer’s report:

In this manuscript the authors document 121 episodes of Candida bloodstream infections in a teaching hospital in Shanghai China. All isolates were identified to species and susceptibility testing was performed. The authors used multivariate analysis to determine risk factors for candidemia and determined that inappropriate antifungal therapy was a risk factor for mortality.

Major comments:

There are new species specific Candida breakpoints that should be applied to this analysis (M27-S4).

The susceptibility rate of C. tropicalis to fluconazole is extremely low and probably represents trailing rather than true resistance. Without knowing anything about the reading (not in materials and methods) I will assume that these are 48 hr breakpoints?

Minor comments:

What is ANTIFUNGUS 3? If this is a commercial kit then it is not broth microdilution by the methods of CLSI. There needs to be a better description of the susceptibility testing.

By the new breakpoints, no isolates of C. glabrata are susceptible, only SDD or resistance. It would be more meaningful to put the percent resistant in Table 3 rather than the percent susceptible.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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