Reviewer's report

**Title:** Telavancin versus standard therapy in patients with uncomplicated Staphylococcus aureus bacteremia: the ASSURE Study

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 19 December 2013

**Reviewer:** Samuel E Wilson

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have taken on a difficult study, the efficacy of antimicrobials in bacteremia, and have completed a very worthwhile clinical study. Televancin is a proven agent for Staphylococcus aureus in soft tissue infection and other areas. Here the authors investigated telavancin's activity in 58 patients with S. aureus bacteremia. The study design is sound, the follow-up period ie 3 months was adequate, and the results reported in a straightforward manner. The high cure rate of 88% and 89% is likely due to the fact that most infections were catheter related and these will respond to the specific antimicrobials and removal of the foreign body.

This brings me to the one recommendation which is that the authors indicate the time of removal of the intravenous catheter, eg, the catheter was moved at the time of initiation of antimicrobial therapy or within 24 hours. Also, a peculiar metallic taste disturbance has been noticed with intravenous Telavancin. Where there any reports of this as adverse events?

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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:**

No competing financial interest