Reviewer’s report

Title: Hospital days, hospitalization costs, and inpatient mortality among patients with mucormycosis: a retrospective analysis of U.S. hospital discharge data

Version: 4 Date: 25 March 2014

Reviewer: Maria Drogari-Apiranthitou

Reviewer’s report:

Mucormycosis, a rare but emerging infection, has still unacceptable high mortality rates despite recent advances in the understanding of pathogenesis and the therapeutic approach.

The study of M. Zilberberg et al. with the title “Hospital days, hospitalization costs, and inpatient mortality among patients with mucormycosis: a retrospective analysis of U.S. hospital discharge data”, adds to the knowledge of the burden of this infection in the U.S. and emphasizes its disproportionate financial impact, as the authors state. Limitations are adequately discussed.

This is a well designed and very well presented work and I consider it a privilege to have been selected as one of the reviewers of the manuscript.

Only one comment:

In more recent years, in the era of an expanding population of immunocompromised patients, especially those with hematological malignancies, trends regarding underlying diseases have resulted in substantially different proportions than those presented in the ‘classic’ study of Roden et al. cited in the introduction. As this infection constitutes a global threat, I would suggest the more recent data from Europe be also mentioned.


or:


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