Reviewer's report

Title: Development of Quality Indicators for Antimicrobial Treatment in Adults with Sepsis

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Reviewer: Jose Bordon

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Caroline M.A. van den Bosch et al. reported the manuscript titled “Development of Quality Indicators for Antimicrobial Treatment in Adults with Sepsis”. This manuscript is about sepsis guidelines to define the appropriate use of antimicrobials.

These are the comments and corrections.

1. The objective of this manuscript is timely and relevant.
2. This manuscript would be more developed if authors define in M&M "Appropriate use of antimicrobial"
3. Authors did a major work in using the RAND modified Delphi method to examine 40 potential QIs and a pertinent multidisciplinary team.
4. Conclusion: A study conclusion is expected to be largely related to the interpretation of the study data and not on data to be generated. In the abstract conclusion text "The next step will entail subjecting these quality indicators to an applicability test for their clinimetric properties and ultimately, using these QIs in quality improvement projects." is pertinent for the discussion section and to for conclusion.

Minor comments:

For consistency, authors should indicate "...in adult patients with sepsis on a general medical ward or/and Intensive Care Unit (ICU)" along the manuscript, in some places reads medical ward or Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
No competing interests found with this manuscript.