Author's response to reviews

Title: An outbreak of Extremely Drug-Resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa in a tertiary care pediatric Hospital in Italy

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To the Editor

Dear Editor,

thank you for your request of changes to be made to the manuscript “An outbreak of Extremely Drug-Resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in a tertiary care pediatric hospital in Italy” by M. Ciofi degli Atti et al.

We have revised the text as requested. The point-by-point description of the changes made is reported below

- Line numbering has been included in the main text file of the manuscript.

- We have acknowledged the hospital staff who took part in outbreak investigation and control.

- We have included all authors email addresses on the title page.

- We have added to the Methods a section on ethical considerations. We have clarified that all the laboratory investigations performed to patients were part of standard care for outbreak investigation and control, and all the data were collected for management of the outbreak, in accordance with the hospital policy regarding outbreak investigations approved by the infection control committee. For these reasons, the approval of the ethical committee was not deemed necessary.

- We have changed table 2 by removing individual patient data that may compromise anonymity (i.e., age, day of isolation and epidemiological link). The table now contains only data on isolates that are useful to describe the outbreak (i.e., month and year of isolation, site, PFGE, phenotyping and carbapenemase multiplex PCR results). The section on Results has been modified accordingly. Please let us know if you consider this revision acceptable.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration,

Kindest regards

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