Reviewer's report

Title: The Use of Minocyclin-Rifampin Coated Central Venous Catheters for Exchange of Catheters in the setting of Staphylococcus aureus Central line associated Bloodstream Infections.

Version: 4 Date: 18 June 2014

Reviewer: Robert Norton

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The numbers are far too small to make any statistical conclusion. 8 are exchanged over guidewires with 32 as controls (retention and removal)

2. The invitro study is flawed in that it does not follow the catheters after at least 2 weeks in a broth solution to simulate leaching of the antibiotics and subsequent loss of efficacy. This phenomenon is well recognised as below:


3. What is needed is long term data on the duration of all catheters (guidewire inserted, removal and replaced and retained) and outcomes beyond 2 weeks.

- Minor Essential Revisions

Minor grammatical errors

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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'