Reviewer's report

Title: PCR-DGGE assessment of the bacterial diversity of breast milk in women with lactational infectious mastitis

Version: 2 Date: 14 December 2007

Reviewer: Ross Fitzgerald

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript by Delgado et al represents a neat study of the diversity of bacteria associated with breast milk during lactational mastitis. The study is carried out competently and the conclusions are justified by the findings. Although a relatively small number of samples are analyzed, the data provide convincing support for the long-held dogma that human mastitis infections are commonly caused by staphylococci.

The manuscript is well-structured and written. However, there are some grammatical errors and the paper should be read closely by a native english speaker and corrected.

Minor Discretionary revisions:
The authors could consider removing Table 1 as it could possibly be summarized in the text.

Minor essential revisions:
Table 2. It is not clear to me what is meant by 'number of isolates'- perhaps this could be presented as cfu/ml, consistent with the total bacterial counts in Table 1?

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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