Reviewer’s report

Title: Clinical And Microbiological Profile Of Infectious Keratitis In Children

Version: 2 Date: 3 August 2013

Reviewer: Fiona Stapleton

Reviewer’s report:

The revised manuscript is much improved. There are minor comments remaining:

1. The abstract has several typographical and grammatical errors where revisions have been made in the text.
2. Background – missing word ‘is’ in second para second sentence
3. Methods – the statement about corneal scraping and microbiology workup should be deleted from the first paragraph of the methods as the detail has now been included in para 3. Para 3 needs to be proofread. E.g First sentence needs a full stop not comma, CO2 not CO etc
4. Results. The visual acuity data showing overall improved results at discharge compared with admission may be better analysed with ANOVA across the visual impairment groups (it may be worth making 3 groups rather than 4 given that the sample size is reduced to 31) rather than a simple t test, and excluding those cases with missing data. The text describing the finding for those with poorer VA at presentation is not consistent with how the data are presented in Figure 1.
5. Discussion
   a. Page 8 end of para 2, delete etcetara.
   b. The authors have added a statement in the discussion about possible reasons for the relatively low culture proven rate compared with other studies in paediatric populations. It would be helpful to understand what the specific issues were in this study compared to the other 2 – for example in terms of difficulties in getting quality samples from children, did the other studies sample under general anaesthesia
   c. References 14 and 15 are not primary references to exposure to contaminated disinfection solutions and biofilm formation.

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 I have no competing interests