Reviewer's report

Title: Increasing Incidence of Perineal MRSA Infections among Toddlers

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Reviewer: Sofia Vourli

Reviewer's report:

General comment
The authors of this manuscript report a significant increase of CA-MRSA infections among toddlers at Mercy Children’s Hospital, Ohio. Focusing on the Public Health aspect of their findings would contribute to more effective monitoring of community-associated infections of their region.

Some specific issues are addressed below:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. Material and Methods, first paragraph: More data, such as the catchment population of Mercy Children’s Hospital, the total number of outpatients during the study period and the total number of S. aureus (MRSA and MSSA) infections, need to be provided in order to assess the significance of the findings of this manuscript.

2. Various comparative statements are used throughout the manuscript: Abstract, first line "a six-fold increase...", background, third paragraph "a recent six-fold increase...", conclusion, first line "the incidence of CA-MRSA infection is increasing...", but data compared to current findings are not presented. Comparison of current findings with previous ones should be more clear.

3. Discussion, second and third paragraph: Possible risk factors are discussed, but corresponding results to support this discussion are lacking. In fact, this study does not seem to be designed to identify risk factors, and so relevant statements (background, third paragraph) should be probably removed.

Minor Essential Revision
1. Figure 1 should be integrated in Table 1, as it presents baseline characteristics of CA-MRSA patients.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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