Reviewer's report

Title: Antibiotic Surveillance on a Paediatric Intensive Care Unit: Easy attainable Strategy at low Costs and Resources

Version: 1 Date: 3 December 2012

Reviewer: Shantanu Rastogi

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Martin et.al. have highlighted the common occurrence of inappropriate use of antibiotics in a tertiary PICU. Simple introduction of the checklist in this study had significantly reduced inappropriate use of the antibiotics with decreased antibiotics in culture negative patients and correction of antibiotics in the culture positive patients. I think this study merits publication

Comments

Details of introduction of the checklist in the PICU needs to be discussed

How was compliance to the use of checklist monitored, use of run chart would be of use

Was the person not following the checklist approached and coached. If about 69% compliance could produce such a significant improvement then the improvement would be even more if the compliance was improved. We understand that was not the question in the study but this kind of intervention would shed light on the problems in getting more providers using the checklist in an ICU setting

The results of the audit of compliance would add in understanding of the barriers to introduction of the checklist

Is the checklist still in use and is being audited? If so is the improvement observed during the study is sustained?

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:

No competing interest