Reviewer's report

Title: Granulicatella bacteraemia in children: two cases and review of the literature

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Reviewer: Maddalena Giannella

Reviewer's report:

Maia De Luca et al. reported two cases of endocarditis caused by Granulicatella adiacens in pediatric patients with underlying predisposing valve disease. Authors made also a literature review of other reports of Granulicatella spp. endocarditis. The manuscript is well written and the matter is interesting, but I have some comments for the authors.

Major comments

Introduction

1. I believe that Introduction should include the following three short paragraphs:
   - Granulicatella spp.: characteristics of the microorganism and difficulties in identifying it, clinical presentation and concerns about the antibiotic therapy.
   - Endocarditis in children: briefly the main epidemiological and clinical features, and data on the outcome.
   - Presentation of own work.

Discussion

2. The strength of the article is the failure of the first-line therapy and the good response observed after starting meropenem associated to other antibiotics. I believe authors should point out this in the first paragraph of their discussion. A literature review should be done to search if other authors found the same difficulties in the treatment of Granulicatella spp. endocarditis and observed a good response to meropenem. The role of surgery in the good outcome of the first patient should be also discuss.

Minor comments

Introduction

3. Germ should be change with microorganism

4. References should be indicated for data on epidemiology and outcome of NVS endocarditis, and for those on endocarditis in children.

Case 1

5. In haemoglobin and CRP comma should be replaced by point

6. Genus and species of microorganisms should be always written in italics.
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 interests