Reviewer's report

**Title:** Successful reduction of hospital-acquired methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus in a urology ward: a 10-year study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 11 April 2013

**Reviewer:** Bidya Shrestha

**Reviewer’s report:**

The article entitled “Successful reduction of hospital-acquired methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus in a urology ward: a 10-year study” is nicely structured and written. However, there are some comments that need to be addressed. They are as follows:

**Minor essential revisions**

**Result:** Line 23-24 (page 15, paragraph 2, line 5-6) states that after introducing surveillance culture, the number of culture increased to 61% in 2008 (Fig 3D).

Figure 3D shows an increase in number of MRSA culture in 2008, decrease in 2009 and then increased again in 2010. The content in the text and that shown in the figure should match.

Figure 3a, 3b, and 3c show MRSA incidence in decreasing trend with the minimum in the year 2010. However, 3D shows an increasing trend in number of culture from 2006-2010 with a slight decrease in 2009 compared to 2008 and 2010. Does 3D show the MRSA colonization? If yes it should be clearly stated.

**Methods:** Is there any purpose/ or significance behind changing the antibiotic in two different years in clean, and clean and contaminated surgeries?

**Minor comments**

There are some typographical mistakes and they are:

**Discussion, line 43** (page 18, paragraph 2, line 1): control use should be replaced by controlled use.

**Discussion, line 46** (page 18, paragraph 2, line 4): S aureus should be replaced by S. aureus.

**References:** Staphylococcus aureus is not italicized anywhere. The reference numbers to be corrected are: 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 18, 19, 27 and 29.

**Reference number 26:** Title is in the square bracket.

**To be added in list of abbreviations:**

**Methods, avoidance and reduction of AMP, line 14** (page 9, line 14): LVFX for levofloxacin?

**Method, avoidance and reduction of AMP, line 20** (page 10, line 5): TAZ/PIPC for Tazobactam/piperacillin?
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.