Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-microbial activities of pomegranate rind extracts: enhancement by cupric salts against clinical isolates of S. aureus, MRSA and PVL positive CA-MSSA

Version: 1 Date: 29 April 2009

Reviewer: Daneel Ferreira

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript describes the antimicrobial activities of pomegranate rind extracts and its cupric salts enhancement against clinical isolates of Staphylococcus aureus, MRSA, and PVL-positive CA-MSSA. The research was properly done and represents the first report of the efficacy of a pomegranate-derived natural product mixture against clinical PVL-positive CA-MSSA isolates

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Although "meticillin" is a recognized term, the authors may consider to change this to "methicillin" in order to be in line with the consistent use of the latter term in the cited references.

2. The term "natural product" is more often used to describe a pure compound derived from natural sources, e.g., ellagic acid from pomegranate rind. The authors used this term to describe a mixture of secondary metabolites present in an aqueous extract of dried rind - please reconsider.

3. The authors need to be consistent when using the term "et al."

4. Reference 19 is a repetition of reference 9.

5. The authors need to consistently insert spaces between a numeral and the appropriate unit, e.g., 0.2 mm, not 0.2mm, also the abbreviation for milliliter is mL, not ml.

6. The authors need to refrain from using a term like iron sulphate. It is either Fe(II) or Fe(III), i.e., ferrous- or ferric- sulphate. In the same paragraph where this appears, several corrections need to be made ( Stewart and colleges, etc.), and the sentence starting with, A recent study ..., has to be reworded.

7. The references section needs thorough revision, e.g., Staphylococcus aureus should be consistently italicized, manuscript titles should only be capitalized at the beginning, ref. 9 - please correct antibacterial "activates", ref. 20 -remove the periods in the journal abbreviations, and ref, 24- is there an abbreviation for "Veterinary Microbiology"?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
**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 that I have no competing interests.