Reviewer’s report

Title: Measuring hospital-wide activity volume for patient safety and infection control: A multi-centre study in Japan

Version: 1 Date: 11 May 2007

Reviewer: Hyang Soon Oh

Reviewer's report:

General
Thanks you for giving me a chance to review your manuscript. This study is interesting. This study is one of the job descriptions of staffs in infection control and quality improvement in Japan. However, some of them should be described more clearly.

In Abstract 2p and Introduction 4P

The aims of this were.....

Results section
You should describe how many percent of activities of infection control was compared to their (in this study subjects) fulltime of working hours.

Discussion section
You didn’t describe the percent of infection control activities among total working hours. And in this study, the required standard time in spent in infection control (author’s expectation or from other references) wasn’t proposed. Nor it wasn’t compared to other study results. So I can’t agree to your conclusion in your discussion. Actually it was confused whether times being spent in infection control activities in this study results is short or not.

Thanks you.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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'