Reviewer’s report

Title: Treatment of gram-positive deep sternal wound infections in cardiac surgery -Experiences with daptomycin-

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Reviewer: Morteza Tavakkoli Hosseini

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Popov et al have proposed a new antibiotic treatment regimen (Daptomycin) for “deep sternal wound infection (DSWI)” in their manuscript titled as: “Treatment of gram-positive deep sternal wound infections in cardiac surgery -Experiences with daptomycin-”

The manuscript is well composed, original, and fluent although with some glitches in English. It suggests that Daptomycin could be safely considered as a new treatment option for accelerating DSWI healing after cardiac surgery. The conclusion is based on an observational analysis of 23 cases of DSWI with gram positive organisms, treated with Daptomycin.

This manuscript opens a new horizon in the reader’s mind for another potential treatment option for DSWI. As there are no conclusive reports in the literature for the optimal antibiotic treatment of DSWI, presenting the readers with this manuscript could broaden their DSWI treatment options and also help with the development of their local antimicrobial protocols.

I would like to recommend this manuscript for publication in “The Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery” subject to the following revision:

1. The author has mentioned that some patients were pre-treated with some other antibiotics before commencement of Daptomycin. The author needs to elaborate more on this topic, in order to make the text more comprehensible and conclusive for the reader.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'