Reviewer’s report

Title: Eradication of a chronic wound and driveline infection after redo-LVAD implantation

Version: 1 Date: 11 October 2013

Reviewer: Aron Frederik Popov

Reviewer’s report:

I’ve read with interest the case report entitled “Eradication of a chronic wound and driveline infection after redo LVAD implantation by Dr. Walter et al.

In the present case report the authors try show that in case of an infected LVAD the administration of Daptomycin and surgical treatment seems to be sufficient and effective.

Increasing incidence of end-stage HF and limited availability of donor organs have led to longer waiting times for htx and subsequently increasing mortality. LVADs have moved to the forefront in the management of patients with advanced HF and the therapy with LVAD has been demonstrating survival benefits and improvement in functional status and quality of life in those patients. However, the case report brings up several questions. To date, there are only a few details concerning optimal management of LVAD-related infections in the literature.

Minor revisions:
1. What was the reason for device failure (HM II)? Subtherapeutic anticoagulation?
2. Why then HeartWare?
3. Please leave a comment regarding bridging? To transplantation?
4. In the case report section it was mentioned that swabs during the hospitalization were free of bacterial growth. Was it under antibiotic therapy? Please make a comment.

Major revisions:
1. It is unclear why the patient was not put on the Urgent List (HU-Status) for transplantation when the LVAD was infected. An LVAD infection is the classical indication for high urgency transplantation. Please make a comment
2. The discussion section can be much more improved. E.g The most feared infective complication is LVAD endocarditis
3. The authors should be aware of re-infection, especially when the antibiotic therapy is stopped and the patient is at home. They should mention and discuss it in the discussion section.
4. The conclusion is too enthusiastic for a single patient experience. Please modify.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests