Reviewer's report

Title: Selection of Two Emerging Pathogens, Brevundimonas diminuta and Ochrobactrum anthropi, in a Cystic Fibrosis Patient Treated with Colistin: a Case Report

Version: 4 Date: 26 May 2008

Reviewer: Argyris Michalopoulos

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 9 criteria for evaluation in the journal: An unexpected association between diseases or symptoms

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

In my opinion, the authors should discriminate the detection of these two pathogens from the preceding colistin treatment since these pathogens isolated are usually resistant to polymyxins. Colistin has good activity against Acinetobacter spp. (MIC90 # 2 mg/Lt), Klebsiella pneum. (MIC90 # 1 mg/Lt), E. coli (MIC90 # 2 mg/Lt), P. aeruginosa (MIC90 # 4 mg/Lt), and Enterobacter spp. (MIC50 # 1 mg/Lt). In addition, it may be active against some strains of Shigella spp. (MIC90 # 0.5 mg/Lt), Salmonella spp. (MIC90 # 1 mg/Lt), Citrobacter spp. (MIC90 # 1 mg/Lt), and Escherichia coli (MIC90 # 1 mg/Lt).


Tan TY, Ng SY. The in-vitro activity of colistin in gram-negative bacteria. Singapore Med 2006;47(7):621-4

I am not sure that these pathogens isolated were the causative agents of pneumonia since apart from them, Staph. aureus was isolated as well (107 CFU/ml, MSSA). In addition, Gram staining showed Gram positive cocci and the patient received tobramycin.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.