Reviewer's report

Title: Rhodococcus Equi indwelling catheter infection: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 13 May 2010

Reviewer: G. Marshall Lyon

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: No

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: No

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

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?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: No

Comments to authors:

This article is poorly written with mistakes too numerous to point out each mistake. These mistakes include: misspellings (gentamycin should be gentamicin), spaces next to hyphens, organism names that aren't italicized or the genus name is not spelled with the first usage, poor punctuation, and non-standard terminology (tunneled subclavian central venous catheter instead of indwelling chest venous catheter). The mistakes are so numerous one must wonder if the manuscript was proofread by the authors.

The case includes pertinent facts, but height and weight should be reported in metric units. The content of the discussion is appropriate. As such, with revisions this case report and discussion could be publishable. However, there is one issue I have concern with. The authors report an artist who uses horse hair in her sculpture. The authors then include 2 figures of horse hair sculptures. Why
attractive, the figures do not contribute to the case but could potentially identify the patient to anyone familiar with her work. While traditional protected health information such as name, age, or numbers are not reported; the spirit of HIPAA is potentially violated by including the figures. As such, I recommend they be removed.

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests