Reviewer's report

Title: Antibiotic susceptibility of Clostridium difficile is unchanged despite widespread use of broad spectrum antibiotics

Version: 3 Date: 18 August 2014

Reviewer: Elvira Garza-Gonzalez

Reviewer's report:

Major revision
Undoubtedly, there is valuable information in this manuscript. I still think that Authors cannot assume that antibiotic susceptibility of Clostridium difficile is unchanged despite widespread use of broad spectrum antibiotics if they did not analyzed the antibiotic susceptibility in the same population.

By all the analysis they made the can draw the conclusion that the antimicrobial susceptibility in the population studied is similar to observed in other populations. I think this concept should be changed.

A better title could be:
“Antibiotic susceptibility of Clostridium difficile is similar to observed in other populations despite widespread use of broad spectrum antibiotics at the University Hospital of Zurich”

Others changes need to be done of this concept is changed:

Line 53: is similar to reported in other populations over the last two decades
Line 59: Zurich is similar to the one reported by others since the 1980s. (delete “and appears to be mostly unchanged since the 1980s.”)
Lines 244-246: Clindamycin has been considered the major catalyst for CDI. Here, we determined which antibiotics are associated with CDI in a tertiary hospital center in Switzerland and whether antibiotic susceptibility of C. difficile strains influenced the occurrence of CDI. Delete: “a change in the”
Lines 339-340: In summary, antibiotic susceptibility of the collection of C. difficile from the University Hospital of Zurich is similar to the one reported by others since the 1980s. Delete: “and appears to be mostly unchanged since the 1980s.”

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:

None to declare