Reviewer’s report

Title: High prevalence of multidrug-resistant gram-negative organisms in HIV positive men

Version: 0 Date: 25 Aug 2016

Reviewer: Olivia Achonduh-Atijegbe

Reviewer's report:

In this study, Reinheimer et al carried out a retrospective study on the prevalence of multidrug resistant gram-negative organisms (MDRGN) in rectal swabs of HIV positive men in Germany. The findings indicate a high prevalence of MDRGN in HIV positive men compared to those that were HIV negative. The implications for HIV management/control have been highlighted. However, I have the following comments which could improve the quality of the manuscript.

Major comments

Abstract

1. Study objectives should be included in the abstract

2. Include more details of the study design, criteria for selection for both cases and controls

Methods.

3. Current study design is too scanty. More details of study design, inclusion/exclusion criteria for both cases and controls necessary

4. Why did you use only "age" as selection criteria? What about other parameters such as co-morbidities, antibiotics taken prior to hospital visit etc?

5. Why did you choose to use only data from Jan 2015-March 2016?

6. How did you determine sample size?

Data analysis

7. Give more details of the parameters that were analysed in each study group and the statistical test used
Results

8. A separate table on the clinical characteristics of the study population is necessary. Should be separated from the table on the prevalence of MDRGN

9. Titles of tables and figures need to be self-explicit. Avoid the use of abbreviations on titles, include a legend at the bottom (not top) of each table or figure.

10. It's important to show the results (table) of antibody susceptibility testing and the distribution of bla genes coding for carbapenemases in both HP and HN

11. Check that the format of your tables is in line with the guidelines of the journal.

Discussion

12. Since you excluded females from the study (lines 206-220), your discussion should focus more on males and the implications for HIV management/control. A recommendation could be made for similar studies in females

13. Why not discuss antibody susceptibility testing and bla genes?

Acknowledgements

14. I think it's important to acknowledge the patients whose samples/data you used for this study

Minor comments

Delete spaces between lines 158 &159. Position of table is already shown in line 157 (Table 1). Same comment applies to lines 152-153.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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