Reviewer’s report

Title: Prospective study on human fecal carriage of Enterobacteriaceae possessing mcr-1 and mcr-2 genes in a regional hospital in Hong Kong

Version: 0  Date: 10 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Habip Gedik

Reviewer's report:

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The findings of study are very interesting, and also presenting very important results for the community of Hong Kong. But, there are some important gaps regarding methods. The selection of person who underwent to fecal analysis was not described in the study. That issue is very important for the study. For example, did those people take antibiotic in the previous three months? Were they charged at hospital to treat any disease? Did they undergo to any invasive procedure in the previous hospital? Did any person go abroad in the previous three months? Were there any farmer or animal breeding people in that population? Authors have not described those issues, so those information would affect the results. MIC values of the isolates were found with VITEK and E-test, but those methods are not reference methods for colistin. As we know, there is a trouble with MIC analysis of colistin with those methods due to molecular structure of colistin. The time when the study was perform was not described.

Those results should have been compared with colistin-resistant isolates that caused infections. Since the study isolates were sensitive to carbapenems, so they were treatable isolates and if they were isolated from patients with infection, they could be treated with carbapenems. However, this study reveals that there were already silent plasmids encoding colistin resistance and we have learnt that when this study was performed.

The title of study is not understandable, so might be more understandable.

The discussion part is very long and complicated, might be better designed.

After major revision, this study should be reviewed once again.

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

No

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

No

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

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