Reviewer’s report

Title: Geographic surveillance of community associated MRSA infections in children using electronic health record data

Version: 0 Date: 21 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Olga Perovic

Reviewer's report:

To the editor

I wish to thank you for asking to review the manuscript with the title: Geographic surveillance of community associated MRSA infections in children using electronic health record data.

This study is presenting a different epidemiological approach to surveillance of common pathogen (MRSA) from community and hospital settings in socially and economically divided communities.

Study is well designed analysis of big data with addition of heat maps incidence rates.

I have very few comments:

Background

Line 53, as this is population based study; it would explained better if authors stratify proportion of different ethnic groups amongst children in this geographical area compared to others in USA.

Line 9 on following page, for the same reason of explaining population based analysis, have authors considered comparing their overcrowding with other states in USA.

Methodology

Line 29, regarding case definition, where children admitted with 2nd hospitalization been enrolled? In addition, have authors been able to obtain information on use of antibiotics in previous year.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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