Reviewer’s report

Title: Clinical parameters and outcomes of necrotizing soft tissue infections secondary to gastrointestinal fistulas

Version: 1 Date: 03 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Silvano Esposito

Reviewer's report:

The authors describe a large series of patients affected by necrotizing soft tissue infection following gastro-intestinal fistula.

I would not define NSTIs as surgical infection because this definition is misleading. These are infections mostly needing surgical interventions. I do not agree as well that trauma can be defined as an etiology of gastro-intestinal fistula. It is the pathogenesis.

All the study emphasizes the surgical efforts and methodology carried on in the management of NSTIs with very few words on infectious diseases aspects of the disease. I wonder if the authors have an ID consultant in their ward or hospital.

The author just mention that patients were treated with large spectrum antibiotics and sepsis and septic shocke were treated according to standard procedures.

No mention to the antibiotic utilized, their dosages, duration of therapy and antibiotic resistance.

This study would be more suitable for publication in a journal dealing with surgery

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.

Unable to assess

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

No

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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