Reviewer’s report


Version: 1 Date: 26 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Wondwossen Abebe

Reviewer's report:

The authors report a description of the microbiology and AST results of bacteremia at private laboratory in Harare, Zimbabwe. The study is interesting and important to understand local epidemiology. The study shows shockingly high resistance rates to most of the antibiotics tested.

Background
S. pneumonia and E. coli first write in full for all species
HIV and TB should be spelled out

Methods
Page 6, line 7: The study is not cross-sectional as it analyses samples from a 6 years time period. It is a retrospective observational study
Page 6: The author did not indicate how to identify the stated bacterial pathogens and their reported antimicrobial susceptibility testing and which guideline was used (more attention needs to be paid the testing methodology)
Page 7, line 8: delete Klebsiella pnemoniae, a repetition.
Page 9, line 52-55: Take account of intrinsic resistance -Gram-negative bacteria like Klebsiella spp and Enterobacter spp are invariably resistant to ampicillin and amoxicillin, so commenting on the resistance rates to these agents is meaningless

Conclusion and Recommendations
Too long and inconsistent, I suggest to restructure it greatly.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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