Reviewer’s report

Title: Staphylococcus aureus colonization in hemodialysis patients: a prospective 25 months observational study

Version: 0 Date: 31 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Wilbert Van Der meijden

Reviewer's report:

A nice and fascinating study. I have some questions and comments:

* Which cannulation technique did you use: butthonhole or rope ladder cannulation? Did you see difference in carriage, amount of colony forming units or infections with S. aureus?

* The main causes of death in hemodialysis patient in these study population were bloodstream infections by pathogens other than S. aureus. How much were caused by proven line infections?

* Did you also investigate the influence of treatment with antibiotics (for another reasons) and carrier ship?

* Line 116: You mention three years observational study: it is two years

* Twenty (you mention 10 in the abstract) surgical patients were recruited as controls free from renal disease. These is not a real healthy control group. Do you have data about re-hospitalisation, visiting the out patient clinic, need antibiotics etc.?

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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