Reviewer’s report

Title: Implementation of a Successful Eradication Protocol for Burkholderia Cepacia Complex in Cystic Fibrosis Patients

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Reviewer: Francis Gilchrist

Reviewer's report:

The article by Garcia et al reports the successful eradication of new isolates of Burkholderia cepacia complex (Bcc) in 6 adult patients with cystic fibrosis. Changes in lung function (FEV1) and nutrition (BMI) are compared to a group of patients with chronic Bcc infection. Changes in FEV1 and BMI are also shown for the 6 patients who underwent Bcc eradication.

Given the paucity of data on Bcc eradication in patients with CF, the details of the eradication regimen and the outcomes in these 6 patients warrants publication. However, I do not think the comparison to the 'control' group adds anything and the importance of this comparison is overstated in the paper. The controls were likely to have chronic Bcc infection and therefore cannot fairly be compared to those with a new isolate of Bcc. The comparison is made even less relevant by only having 4 subjects in the control group.

Additional comments:

Page 6 Line 4. Were patients with any previous Bcc isolates excluded from inclusion or only those who previously isolated the same genomovar.

Page 6 Line 9. How long had subjects been free from Bcc for? i.e. Did the author review the Paediatric culture data?

Page 6 Line 29. It should not read 'All patients' as only 6/7 were started on eradication

Page 8 Line 15. More details need to be given about the 3/7 'controls' that were not reported. Losing 2/7 (29%) to follow up over 12 months seems high, further details should also be given as to why the control had an uncertain diagnosis of CF - if a patient is seen in the CF clinic and isolates BCC in their sputum - the diagnosis does not sound uncertain

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.
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

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