Reviewer’s report

Title: Dalbavancin Treatment in a Deep Sternal Wound MRSA Infection after Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery: A Case Report

Version: 0 Date: 28 Sep 2017

Reviewer: MW Dunne

Reviewer’s report:

This case report identifies a circumstance in which an alternative to the use of vancomycin was desirable, based on an impression of lack clinical improvement. The authors provide helpful information for the reader to be able to make their own judgment as to the merits of the various antibiotics used in the care of the patient. As dalbavancin is a new agent, reports of situations in which its use has been associated with clinical success may be helpful to physicians caring for patients with similar circumstances and support the rationale for definitive clinical studies in the indication of interest.

A few things to suggest:

1) Add the dates of surgery to figure 1 (which is a very helpful table). Also, I'm not sure what the top line of that figure represents.

2) It's is worth noting that vancomycin use did result in a reduction in CRP values over time. The authors clearly state that there was a concern that clinical improvement was insufficient but there was a residual collection that probably required surgical drainage and cultures done at the debridement were presumably all negative.

3) I would add the dalbavancin MIC's to Table 1.

4) Whether the vancomycin (with surgical debridement) would or would not have worked in this patient will never be known; that is the limitation of case reports. However, what the authors have identified and well described is the use of dalbavancin to complete therapy for a serious sternal osteomyelitis, with a convenient two dose regimen as opposed to six weeks of twice daily vancomycin, for which a PICC Line would have been needed. From my perspective, that is a reason to publish this manuscript.


7) Consider adding a statement to the conclusion that this case report supports a definitive clinical trial in dalbavancin for the treatment of osteomyelitis.

**Level of interest**
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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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Needs some language corrections before being published

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I was responsible for the development of dalbavancin as the Chief Medical Officer of Durata Therapeutics and a VP for Development at Pfizer. When Durata was sold to Allergan in 2014, I no longer had a financial interest related to dalbavancin or the publication of this manuscript.
I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

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