Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluating carbapenem restriction practices at a private hospital in Manila, Philippines as a strategy for antimicrobial stewardship

Version: 1 Date: 09 May 2019

Reviewer: Ana Hoxha

Reviewer's report:

Title: I find that the authors title "Implications for stewardship in low- and middle-income countries" has not been addressed, neither in the their study design nor in the discussion. Indeed, the word implications per se appears only in the title, and low- and middle-income countries are mentioned only in the background. Suggest to remove or rephrase this part of the title.

Abstract -Methods: Please specify that the study was limited to 2016, not "from 2016", otherwise it is misleading.

Abstract -Conclusion - "Prior approval of restricted antimicrobials (PARA) is a component of antimicrobial stewardship in this institution." This is not a conclusion of your study since it is the default situation as mentioned in the background.

Discussion: would be interesting to have some more discussion over the distribution of pathogens detected, if it is what is expected or it it relative to the specific study context.

Suggestion Table 2: I see you listed the organisms in an alphabetic order, but maybe ordering them based on the number of isolates they were detected in would make the reading of the table easier, and already highlight the main one. The same principle can be applied to the group Other. Up to the authors to decide though.

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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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