

## **Response to the Reviewers' comments:**

The authors of Manuscript ID:78556 sincerely thank the Reviewers for their time and invaluable feedback towards making this manuscript much better.

### **Response to Reviewer 1:**

We really appreciate this Reviewer for describing this systematic review as a “nice study that advances knowledge in the field”

### **Response to Reviewer 2:**

Comment 1: Please italicize scientific names.

Response: We agree that the scientific names must be italicized, and we have done that across the manuscript.

Comment 2: Begin sentence from a letter rather with numbers

Response: We agree with this comment and have made the adequate changes in the manuscript

Comment 3: Several word fusions in there

Response: We agree and have eliminated the word fusions

Comment 4: In addition, provide a detail on HPI detection methods

Response: Besides culturing, we have described additional methods to detect HPI in paragraph 2 of the discussion section and it reads as follows: “Additionally, the 16S rRNA PCR test and mass spectrometry are reliable means of differentiating *Hemophilus* spp and the HACEK organisms without culturing [18]”

Again, thank you for the comments, we hope we have addressed them in line with your standards. Please feel free to let us know if more re-iterations are needed.