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Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 14500-edited.doc).

**Title:** Antibiotic stewardships programmes in intensive care units: why, how, and where is it leading us to?

**Authors** Yu Zhi Zhang BSc, MBBS, Suveer Singh BSc, MBBS, PhD, EDIC, DICM, FFICM, FRCP

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 14500

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Critical Care Medicine

**Reviewer code:** 02939706 □

**Science editor:** Yue-Li Tian □ **Date sent for review:** 2014-10-08 **Date reviewed:** 2014-11-01

We are most grateful for the favourable reviews and helpful advice afforded by the Reviewers. We have taken on board the suggestions, and improved the manuscript for the readership as a result.

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 We have structured the abstract, and incorporated the results of the systematic review within this.

2 We have reduced the size of the introduction, and removed some of the general commentary, as advised.

3 We have expanded the results section of the systematic review, so discussing the key findings from the studies represented in the Tables.

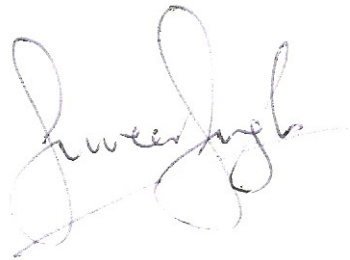
4 We have lengthened the discussion by transferring the description of models of ASPs from the introduction to here, where it appears to be more appropriate.

5 We have reformatted the tables, which are now easily readable and supplied as file '14500-edited revised table. Doc'

6 We have opted to retain the references, if permissible. We believe this to be important to the reader, by allowing a comprehensive reading list for what is an extensive and expanding topic.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Critical Care Medicine*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suveer Singh', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dr Suveer Singh BSc MBBS PhD EDIC DICM FFICM FRCP

Consultant in Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine