

Response to reviewers

Reviewer 03509648

- 1) Page 3: In relation to the sensitivity or specificity of deep ulcers in the clinical diagnosis of osteomyelitis, the Author mean that there is only a more frequent association of deep ulcers with osteomyelitis than superficial ulcers; the sentence is now expressed in a better way.
- 2) Repetitive sentences about specificity and sensitivity of osteomyelitis markers are removed.
- 3) Page 7: the sentence has been removed as suggested.
- 4) The last line prior to 'critical issues' has been corrected.

Reviewer 03069301

- 1) Syntax has been improved.
- 2) Page 1: "Bacteria" was not repeated in the revised text.
- 3) Page 1: The terms microorganism has been changed.
- 4) Page 1: the sentence "it may reflect the increased prevalence of these bacteria both in hospital and not" has been deleted: the text is now expressed correctly.
- 5) Page 1: the sentence "infection is the main cause of major lower limb amputation for foot ulcers in diabetic patients in more than two-thirds of cases" is now expressed correctly.
- 6) Page 2: the sentence "osteomyelitis of the foot is due to non-healing ulcers and is associated with increase risk of major amputation" is now expressed correctly.
- 7) Page 2: the sentence "The possible involvement of the bone should be suspected in all patients with diabetic neuropathic ulcers clinically infected or chronic wounds, with a long time of healing or that healed once they tend to recur, despite the implementation of appropriate treatment that includes offloading" is now expressed correctly.
- 8) All the language has been revised by English mother tongue supervision following the reviewers suggestion
- 9) The probe-to-bone test (PTB) is now explained in a better way.
- 10) PCR and ESR are now expressed in full the first time.
- 11) The term bibliografia has beenremoved and References is now used.

Reviewer 03679821

- 1) Grammatical issues are have been revised by English mother tongue supervision.

All the text has been evaluated and reviewed by the support of an expert native speaker of English.