

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4184

Title: Clostridium difficile-Associated Disease: Adherence with Current Guidelines at a Tertiary Medical Center

Reviewer code: 01804177

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-06-20 10:16

Date reviewed: 2013-06-21 15:48

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

In this study the Authors (AA) evaluated the adherence in clinical practice to two different guidelines in the therapeutic management of *C. difficile* infection, at different grades of clinical severity. The AA underline the unsatisfactory adherence to rational recommendations of guide-lines. This aspect is a pressing issue in the management of infection diseases, specifically for diseases at high mortality as well as infection by *C. difficile*. Therefore the study appears of very clinical interest. In addition the search appears well designed, the methods and laboratorial procedures are appropriate, the tables are of good quality and demonstrative. The results are easily interpretable. The discussion is adherent to aim and supported by results. The bibliography is complete.

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4184

Title: Clostridium difficile-Associated Disease: Adherence with Current Guidelines at a Tertiary Medical Center

Reviewer code: 02489549

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-06-20 10:16

Date reviewed: 2013-08-16 00:04

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript reports the results of a study conducted to assess adherence with the SHEA/IDSA guidelines for management of CDAD at a tertiary medical center. The study is well designed, includes sufficient number of patients and the paper is well written. Despite the fact that the study is single-centered, and includes only hospitalized patients which reduces its generalizability (as mentioned by the authors), the results are considerable. However, I am not certain whether the subject of this study is among the priorities of this journal. Overall, in my opinion the manuscript could be considered for publication in the journal.

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4184

Title: Clostridium difficile-Associated Disease: Adherence with Current Guidelines at a Tertiary Medical Center

Reviewer code: 00466368

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-06-20 10:16

Date reviewed: 2013-08-19 21:46

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)	language polishing	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting look at compliance with current guidelines for C. difficile disease. Overall, I think this is a worthy study but I have a few suggestions. Introduction: A reference for the first sentence should be added. A reference for the second sentence in the second paragraph should also be added. Regarding Zar et al.'s article, two letters were published in Clinical Infectious Diseases in July 15, 2011 referencing this study and pointing out some issues with its methodology. Both would be worth including to reflect that the treatment section of the guidelines is based on suboptimal data. Methods: Was the C. difficile stool toxin assay the only method used to diagnose this? Was PCR never used? Discussion: Another potential weakness of the study is that testing was, apparently, based solely on stool toxin assay, which has been shown to be poorly sensitive. Most centers now use either a combination of GDH Ag/toxin with confirmatory PCR testing in case of discordant results or PCR directly. Not only is education needed, it is also necessary to strengthen the antibiotic stewardship program to capture these deviations and enforce best practices. Not all instances of non-adherence will be due to lack of knowledge.

ESPS Peer-review Report

Name of Journal: World Journal of Gastroenterology

ESPS Manuscript NO: 4184

Title: Clostridium difficile-Associated Disease: Adherence with Current Guidelines at a Tertiary Medical Center

Reviewer code: 00506479

Science editor: Wen, Ling-Ling

Date sent for review: 2013-06-20 10:16

Date reviewed: 2013-08-22 19:36

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A (Excellent)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority Publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B (Very good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C (Good)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: a great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D (Fair)		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E (Poor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Existed	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript of Curtin et al. deals with the importance of the adherence to the guidelines of SHEA/IDSA in treatment of C. difficile infections. The study was designed correctly and its standard is high. The study warns us to treat C. difficile infections more properly.