Reviewer's report

Title: Improving hospital hygiene to reduce the impact of multidrug-resistant organisms in health care - a prospective controlled multicenter study

Version: 3 Date: 11 May 2015

Reviewer: Charlesnika Evans

Reviewer's report:

Major revision
There is still very little information on how ‘fidelity’ of the intervention will be measured or evaluated. This is important as if an effect is not seen in the major outcome, it could be related to how well the intervention was implemented. A number of key interventions are cited, but no description is provided on how the investigators will ensure they are completed or completed well. For example, training courses are listed for medical personnel. Will you evaluate the % of personnel who participate? Provision of a hotline for questions is outlined: how will this information be utilized to provide context to the success of the intervention. No specific information is included about how any of the more qualitative data (ie. periodic on site visits of study team to provide advisory support- how will these interactions be documented?) will be used for providing context to the success of the implementation. Many quality improvement studies describe the quantitative measures, but rarely provide an assessment of the qualitative or contextual information that can provide insight on the success or failure of an intervention. It is unclear what value this protocol has if there is no plans for describing the additional contextual information. This protocol seems to suffer from the lack of a theoretical or implementation framework that would assist in identifying key constructs that are important for implementing an intervention in hospital settings and understanding barriers and facilitators to its success.

Minor Revision
Additional explanation is needed for explaining the categories for level of care in Table 1. What does maximum and standard mean?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests