

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 51240

Date: 24/04/2025

Title: "Meliodosis, The Great Mimicker: A Case Series from a Tertiary Care Centre in North Kerala"

Recommendation:

- ✓ Accept as it is
 Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr. S. K. Nath

Date: 24/04/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication:

The case series provides valuable insight into the management of pulmonary meliodosis, emphasizing the importance of increased clinical awareness among healthcare providers. Although there are limitations such as a small sample size and lack of long-term follow-up, the study reinforces the need for improved diagnostic strategies for meliodosis in high-risk patients. It serves as a call to action for better training and awareness in recognizing this mimicking disease to improve patient outcomes and reduce the risks associated with delayed treatment.

Reviewer's Comment / Report

Strengths:

- Relevance of Topic:** The paper addresses an important public health concern in India, especially in regions like Kerala, where meliodosis cases are rising. This focus on a relatively underreported disease raises awareness among healthcare providers.
- Real-World Case Examples:** The inclusion of real patient cases gives the study practical significance, demonstrating the challenges and complexities of diagnosing and treating meliodosis. It helps in understanding the clinical presentation and management strategies.
- Strengthened Clinical Awareness:** By highlighting the need for clinical suspicion and investigation in at-risk populations, the study may contribute to improved diagnostic practices and outcomes in similar settings.
- Diverse Patient Profiles:** The case series includes patients with different backgrounds, symptoms, and comorbidities, illustrating the varied presentation of meliodosis and discussing treatment responses.

Weaknesses:

- Limited Sample Size:** The study reports only five cases over a three-month period. This small sample size may not adequately represent the larger population and could affect the generalizability of the findings.
- Lack of Comparative Analysis:** There's no comparative analysis with other regions or existing data on meliodosis, limiting the perspective on trends or variations in presentation and treatment outcomes.
- Incomplete Follow-Up Data:** The follow-up process for some patients is insufficiently documented, particularly for cases where patients were discharged against medical advice. This could hinder an assessment of the long-term outcomes of treatment.
- Potential Bias:** As a case series, the findings may exhibit selection bias, as the cases presented are those that reached the tertiary care center and might not include milder or undiagnosed cases.