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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-53002**

Title: Antimicrobial resistance profiles of bacterial isolates from clinical specimens of patients referred to private laboratory during 2023

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 Aamina

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

The study addresses an increasingly critical issue in public health: antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The abstract provides a coherent summary of the background, rationale, methods, and major findings. It clearly establishes the urgency of the topic by situating AMR as a global and national concern and justifies the importance of local surveillance data to guide effective treatment strategies.

The methodology described includes the analysis of clinical samples referred from hospitals in Surat city to a private laboratory during the year 2023. The types of specimens analyzed (urine, blood, pus, stool, and body fluids) reflect a wide spectrum of clinical conditions, which contributes to the comprehensiveness of the study. The use of standard microbiological techniques, such as aerobic culture and the Kirby-Bauer disk diffusion method for antimicrobial susceptibility testing, supports the reliability of the findings.

The results are presented with clarity, highlighting that urine and blood were the most commonly submitted samples, with Escherichia coli and Salmonella Typhi being the predominant isolates in urine and blood respectively. The study identifies a concerning cumulative multidrug resistance (MDR) rate of 64.29%, underscoring the scale of the AMR threat at the local level.

The discussion reinforces the clinical and public health implications of the findings. The emphasis on E. coli as the most prevalent isolate, and the high MDR rate, aligns with global and national AMR patterns, thereby situating the study within a broader epidemiological context.

Overall, the study provides valuable, current data on antimicrobial resistance patterns in a local Indian context. It contributes meaningfully to the growing evidence base necessary for AMR containment strategies and underscores the importance of sustained surveillance and laboratory capacity. The manuscript is informative, contextually relevant, and methodologically sound.

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