

## Correspondence

### Study of the bacterial agents of blood stream infection in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

To the Editor

I read with interest the article "Study of the bacterial agents in nosocomial and acquired infections based on the blood culture in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of Hospital, North East of Iran" by Naderi-Nasab et al, recently published in Saudi Medical Journal<sup>1</sup> and have a few comments. The authors presented a study of the bacterial agents in bloodstream infections among hospitalized patients in the NICU. The authors used the term "acquired infection"; however, this term is obscure and is used apparently to denote community acquired infection to differentiate it from nosocomial infection.<sup>1</sup> In addition, the authors did not define "acquired" and nosocomial infection. The definitions of blood stream infections are well established by the Centers for Disease Control and Preventions CDC.<sup>2</sup>

The study identified *coagulase negative staphylococci* (CoNS) as the predominant organism from both "acquired" and nosocomial infections.<sup>1</sup> If the authors meant the community acquired infections by "acquired infections" then the presence of CoNS would merely represent a contamination rather than a true pathogen. Another possibility is misclassification of the patients, and placing them in a different group. In contrast, CoNS are the most commonly isolated organisms in

neonates who have a primary blood stream infection in NICUs of industrialized countries, causing 50% or more episodes.<sup>3,4</sup>

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#### Reply from the Author

No reply was received from the Author.

#### References

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