

Review of: "Meropenem Usage Assessment amid the Antibiotic Resistance Crisis: A Comprehensive Analysis in a Tertiary Care Hospital in Pakistan"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The draft offers a comprehensive review of meropenem prescription patterns, antibiotic resistance issues, and the analysis of empirical practices across different healthcare settings. Here are some suggestions for improvement:

1. Introduction:

- **Contextual Clarity:** The opening paragraph can benefit from a clearer link between the general problem of antibiotic resistance and meropenem specifically. It might help to briefly introduce the significance of meropenem as a last-line antibiotic early on to strengthen the transition.

2. Methods Section:

- **Clear Definitions:** Ensure that key terms like "empirical prescription" are briefly defined for readers unfamiliar with them. This helps in maintaining clarity.
- **Inclusion Criteria Detail:** It would be helpful to expand on why ICU patients were excluded, as these patients often have critical infections where antibiotic resistance is a significant issue.

3. Results Section:

- **Figures and Graphics Reference:** If Figures 1, 2, and 3 are included in your study, ensure that these are clearly integrated into the text with brief descriptions of what they represent.
- **Empirical Prescriptions:** The high rate of empirical prescriptions (100%) is significant. This could be expanded upon with a short explanation about potential implications, such as the risk of resistance when culture-guided treatments are underutilized.

4. Discussion:

- **Comparative Insights:** The comparison across hospitals is insightful but could benefit from a more cohesive discussion that highlights the key takeaways. Consider summarizing these insights to avoid repetition.
- **Potential Solutions:** Consider introducing more actionable steps that could address the issues raised, such as how guidelines could be developed and implemented to reduce empirical prescriptions.

5. Conclusion:

- **Emphasis on Antibiotic Stewardship:** The conclusion effectively emphasizes the importance of educational initiatives but could also stress the role of robust antibiotic stewardship programs, which include not only education but also regular audits and feedback to prescribers.

6. Stylistic Refinement:

- Ensure consistent use of tenses, especially when discussing study findings and previously conducted studies.
- Double-check for grammar or phrasing issues, especially in more complex sentences, to ensure readability.

Incorporating these changes will help sharpen the narrative, ensuring the argument flows smoothly from problem identification to recommendations for improvement.