

Reviewer 1 v.1

Comments to the Author

CIPRO metanalysis

The present manuscript is an interesting and well done metanalysis of RTCs investigating the use of inhaled ciprofloxacin.

In general, it is very well done but minor changes can be suggested in my opinion before its acceptance for publication.

ABSTRACT: since conclusions say longer studies are needed in the future a mention of RCTs duration should be given in the results section.

Since a long time "NCFB" has been substituted by "bronchiectasis" (see Elborn and Chalmers paper) in order to define a disease by what it is no (non-cf-bronchiectasis).

For coherence with current literature I would suggest using the word "bronchiectasis".

INTRO. The third sentence of introduction should be mitigated: "exacerbation can produce lung damage progression, qol decrease etc. (not all exacerbations necessarily do it).

Please PICOs instead of PICOS

Discussion: the first negative sentence is not appropriate at the beginning of a discussion. Moreover, it is referred to a secondary outcome and I would suggest start highlighting primary outcomes and main results or message of the paper.

Ref 23 is probably not appropriate, I would better use a specific paper ref to describe which antibiotics have not reported positive results.

I would mention the statistical differences in primary outcomes between respire 1 and 2.

When discussing impact of cipro on QoL I would suggest to slightly modify the text as follows:

"did not lead improvements in QoL according to used outcome measures (questionnaires)". In particular I would suggest that it is not clear whether the used questionnaires are the best option to capture measure of change related to inhaled cipro.

When discussing eradication, I would suggest differences in terms of definition of eradication used by the different trials in the analysis. Also, it is important to state that a consensus definition of eradication is not available in Bronchiectasis.

In general, some discussion should be focused in heterogeneity of results...

The initial sentence on antibiotic resistance should be at the end before limitations in my opinion.