## Editors

Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy

Dear Editors,

# We would appreciate if you could consider attached manuscript, ”The novel 2016 WHO *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* reference strains for global quality assurance of laboratory investigations – phenotypic, genetic and reference genome characterisation”, for publication as an original article in *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*.

The previous panel of WHO Global *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* reference strains was published in *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* (Unemo M, et al. J Antimicrob Chemother. 2009;63:1142-51) and is a scientific paper that is exceedingly frequently cited in the gonococcal and other research field.

The present manuscript describing the characterization and usefulness of the new WHO Global panel of *N. gonorrhoeae* reference strains represents original work and no paper resembling the enclosed article has been or will be published except in *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*. All authors have read and agreed to the submitted version of the manuscript and none of the authors have any conflict of interest.

Yours sincerely,

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