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Superficial swab versus deep tissue biopsy for the microbiological diagnosis of local infection in advanced-stage pressure ulcers of spinal cord injured patients: a prospective study

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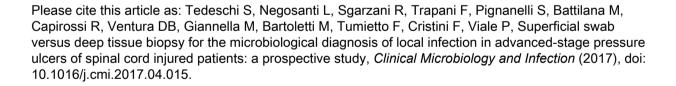
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT **Original article** 1 2 3 Superficial swab versus deep tissue biopsy for the microbiological diagnosis of local 4 infection in advanced-stage pressure ulcers of spinal cord injured patients: a prospective 5 study. 6 7 Sara Tedeschi¹, Luca Negosanti², Rossella Sgarzani³, Filippo Trapani¹, Salvatore Pignanelli⁴, Micaela Battilana², Rita Capirossi², Donatella Brillanti Ventura², Maddalena Giannella¹, Michele 8 9 Bartoletti¹, Fabio Tumietto¹, Francesco Cristini¹, Pierluigi Viale¹ 10 11 1) Infectious Disease Unit, Sant'Orsola-Malpighi Teaching Hospital - Alma Mater Studiorum 12 University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy 2) Montecatone Rehabilitation Institute, Imola, Italy 13 14 3) Plastic Surgery Unit, AUSL Romagna, Italy 4) Laboratory Analysis of Clinical Chemistry and Microbiology, S.Maria della Scaletta Hospital; 15 16 Imola, Italy 17 18 19 **Abstract word count: 249** Text word count: 2718 20 21 22 Running title: Swabs versus biopsy in pressure ulcers 23 24 Corresponding author: 25 Sara Tedeschi, 26 Infectious Disease Unit – Sant'Orsola-Malpighi Teaching Hospital, 27 Via Massarenti, 11, 40138 Bologna – Italy 28 E-mail: sara.tedeschi@aosp.bo.it 29 Fax: +39 051 343500, tel: +39 051 2143199

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