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# On the valid publication of names of mycobacteria

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The message presented by Tortoli and co-workers in their paper “Same meat, different gravy: ignore the new names of mycobacteria” is correct, but the paper contains many errors and misconceptions about the functioning of the Prokaryotic Code and the IJSEM <http://bit.ly/2YD9u6s>

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## To the Editor:

In their paper entitled “Same meat, different gravy: ignore the new names of mycobacteria”, TORTOLI *et al.* [1] called to ignore the recently proposed generic names *Mycobacteroides*, *Mycolicibacter*, *Mycolicibacterium* and *Mycolicibacillus* in which some species of *Mycobacterium* were reclassified [2], and to keep using the old names. The authors correctly stated that with the validation of the new names in the *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology (IJSEM)* [3], the old names remain validly published and anyone is free to use them. By explaining this, they did a great service to the community of microbiologists and clinicians. Arguments similar to those presented by TORTOLI *et al.* [1] against the use of the newly proposed names were brought forward following a proposal to rename the clinically important *Clostridium difficile* as *Clostridioides difficile* [4]. A paper was published to clarify that both names are validly published and can be used [5].