Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of bleach-sedimentation for sterilizing and concentrating M. tuberculosis in sputum samples

Version: 1 Date: 31 March 2010

Reviewer: M A Hamid Salim

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

I am very glad to have the opportunity to review this manuscript. The article is very well written. The background of the study, methodology and results are well presented. The discussion and conclusion are well presented. I have only few concern, these are:

1. The sample size is very small to conclude the study results. Could you please explain the basis of calculation of sample size?

2. The study findings shows that the number of bacilli reduces significantly after bleach sedimentation however the decrease is less in paucibacillary samples. How many samples were paucibacillary among 25 samples. Again the sample size is too small to conclude such findings.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests