Reviewer’s report

Title: High prevalence of multi-drug- resistant tuberculosis in an HIV prevalent setting in Johannesburg, South Africa: a cross sectional study

Version: 4 Date: 8 December 2010

Reviewer: Scott Heysell

Reviewer’s report:

Overall, much improved with adequate justification of limitation allowing the reader to make an informed assessment of the data on an important topic.

1. Discretionary revision: In second paragraph of Results, the authors appropriately describe the findings of culture and DST of lymph nodes and have elected to exclude from analysis. However, one would expect BCG to be PZA resistant, found in only one case. If reading correctly, then it implies the majority actually were M. tuberculosis. May wish to acknowledge this in results or address in Discussion as a limitation and which direction prevalence of MDR-TB would have moved if those isolates were included using DST results as a proxy for BCG.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.