Reviewer's report

**Title:** Outcome of Hospitalized Patients with Tuberculous Pleurisy: Clinical Impact of the Disease Extent

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 27 August 2010

**Reviewer:** Marcus B Conde

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revision

Outcome of Hospitalized Patients with Tuberculous Pleurisy: Clinical Impact of the Disease Extent

**General**

This paper addresses the clinical characteristics and the in-hospital outcome of hospitalized patients with pleural TB. Although it is an interesting MS more information in the methods and results should be given. T

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**Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)**

# I did not find any reference to the design of the study.

# It looks a study using previously collected data, which is always a limitation. The source of data must be well described. How data were collected must be described in detail (was there an instrument for collection? Who did fill out the instrument? Were people trained for this?, etc.

# What were inclusion and exclusion criteria of the study.

# The diagnostic approach for patients with pleural effusion in this Hospital must be described.

# Data analyzed were from 2001-2008. But what was the study period?

# Authors must describe better the process of sputum collection: was all samples spontaneous sputum? Case yes, was collected under supervision? How many samples per patients? Were sputum samples collected at the same moment of the plural biopsy? For all patients?

# No HIV test? No resistant TB?

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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