Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with patient and health care system delay in diagnosis for tuberculosis in the province of Luanda, Angola

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Reviewer: Denise Silva

Reviewer's report:

In the article by Lusignani et al, the authors intended to identify the factors associated with patient and health care system delay in diagnosis for tuberculosis in the province of Luanda, Angola. This is an interesting article. These are my suggestions to the authors:

Minor Essential Revisions

1-The authors should describe the statistical tests used in ‘Data Analysis’ section.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1-Why did the authors choose a cut-off point of > 30 days for patient delay and > 15 days for health care system delay?

2-The authors should explain what was considered a TB case. If the median health system delay was seven days, I supposed that culture was not used for diagnosis. And how smear-negative patients were diagnosed?

3-Do the authors have any data on laboratory turn-around time? The question here is, does the lab play an important role in the delay in health system or is it only the clinical team that plays a role? If data on this is not available, it should be discussed in the limitations.

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.