Reviewer’s report

Title: Phage lysin to control the overgrowth of normal flora in processed sputum samples for the rapid and sensitive detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis by luciferase reporter phage assay

Version: 2 Date: 23 September 2012

Reviewer: Howard Takiff

Reviewer’s report:

Major Revisions: none
Minor Essential revisions
Background paragraph 2: substitute FOR antibiotics
Methods Phage lysine; the quantity or concentration of lysins in the 0.8ml used should be specified, as lysin preparations will differ.
Diagnostic Luciferase: clinical trials of THE National
Further down; One sample whose culture was contaminated was also
The earliest time points ARE given
Was reduced from weekS
Luciferase reporter phage assay…..The methodology of this rapid assay is very simple AND can be
Discretionary Revisions
The study fails to mention recent publications on fluorophages and their improvements that have been used for detecting drug resistance by Jacobs and Hatfull.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests