Author’s response to reviews

Title: Pulmonary Tuberculous: Symptoms, diagnosis and treatment. 19-year experience in a third level pediatric hospital

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor

Next are the answers for queries and comments to the suggestions made by reviewers.

Rev: The manuscript has been revised adequately and it has improved tremendously. The authors have responded to all the queries I raised earlier and all have been well addressed in the revised version. There are, however, a few grammatical corrections that can be done to improve the quality.
Authors: Thanks. This observation has been addressed.

Rev: In the introduction section, the first sentence in the first paragraph is ambiguous; this can be rephrased to be clear in what is meant
Authors: Ok, that paragraph was rephrased to make the meaning clearer

Rev: The fourth sentence in paragraph four, "this also impacts on notifications" is unclear
Authors: Ok, that sentence has been made clear.

Rev: Paragraph four, the sentence that reads, "However, in spite of Mexico being moderately TB endemic Country its association with HIV......", needs to be
rephrased as it is also ambiguous
Authors: Ok, that sentence has been rephrased to make it clearer.

Rev: In the methods section
- Paragraph two, the sentence that reads, "information on chain reaction of tuberculosis (PCR)......." can also be corrected and PCR spelt out correctly in full.
Authors: Ok, that sentence was cleared

Rev: 3. A few more grammatical errors in the discussion section. However, the manuscript flows well and the content is good. It is well improved.
Authors: Thanks. The discussion section has been reread and corrections made where this observation occurred.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Reviewer's report
Title: Pulmonary Tuberculous: Symptoms, diagnosis and treatment. 19-year experience in a third level pediatric hospital
Major compulsory revisions:
Rev: The abstract Combe + is used, this needs to be written out
Authors: Ok, that term was changed

Rev: The methods in the abstract does not state the age of the children, who was included
Authors: Ok, that data was included

Rev: ZN dying is used in abstract, rather use ZN staining
Authors: Ok, that term was changed

Rev: Abstract report 57 is ZN dyeing positive; the table is 45 in general ZN positive. This is confusing. Does the 57 mean Zn and or culture positive? How many is both positive then?
Authors: Ok, that data was cleared

Rev: AFB was positive in 54% but in table ZN positive is in the general group in 51.7%
Authors: Ok, that data was cleared

Rev: Conclusion in the abstract use dermatological contact. What does this mean? skin-test?
Authors: Not exactly, but that information was cleared
Material and methods: in the case definition `2 or more weeks of consolidation without response to antibiotics is used. This is confusing in children pneumonia can take 4 to 6 weeks to radiological clear. 2 weeks as used in this case will be very difficult distinguishing between pneumonia and PTB. Does the authors have a reference for this or has it been validated somewhere else?

Authors: The answer to this is that another chest X ray after 2 weeks was done in these cases because of lack of clinical improvement, and neither radiological improvement was seen at all.

ZN staining cannot be definite diagnosis as other Mycobacterium will also be ZN positive

Authors: The answer to this is the classical form the mycobacterium were grouped at the staining, suggesting TB.

Culture must be definitive diagnosis.

Authors: Yes, culture was considered the definitive diagnosis

47% had mediastinal lymph nodes. Paratracheal glands without hilar glands are not common in children. The authors must give the detail how many was hilium, para tracheal or subcarinal lymph nodes.

Authors: We agree, however, most of cases were mediastinal lymph nodes fundamentally parahiliars

The authors compare the yield between sputum and gastric lavage, but children of 18 gastric lavage is not done, so this comparisons only makes sense if you compared it if both was done in the same patient.

Authors: Ok, That part was erased.

Text state that BCG was slightly meaningful between groups >What does this mean as the p value is reported as < 0.05

Authors: Ok, Slightly was erased

Discussion the word inespecific must be change to nonspecific.

Authors: Ok, that term was changed

The conclusion is not based on any data of this article, this can go into the discussion rather

Authors: Ok, That data was inserted

Conclude the study finding in the conclusions

Authors: Ok, That suggestion was added

There is many spelling issues

Authors: Manuscript was newly checked in full
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

THANKS