Reviewer's report

Title: Epidemiological profile of tuberculosis patients by HIV status in Brazil: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 27 April 2014

Reviewer: Desta Kassa

Reviewer's report:

I) Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Abstract: 1st sentence..."The prevalence of TB-HIV co-infection was 10.8% (95% CI, 10.7% – 12.9%) among adults # 15 years of age" ... If HIV status is known only for 46,466 subjects, shouldn't then TB/HIV prevalence = 46,466/243,676 = 19.1%??

2. Discussion/conclusion..."HIV-related TB has not declined in Brazil over the past decade, despite significant declines in overall TB rates"... This conclusion seems beyond the scope of the study (data available, analyzed and presented). Thus, the sentence need to be re-phrased based on the data and findings of the study. It would be more informative if the trend in TB and TB/HIV during the study period (2007-2011) is analyzed, and then discussed as compared with previous data

II) Minor Essential Revisions

1. Methods/Study population....line 103 " ...... whose HIV status of TB transmission # 15 years old..." ... lacks clarity, need to be re-write

2. Data Analysis and Statistics... line 133 "....We compared TB subjects with TB with HIV subjects.." ... lacks clarity, need to be re-write

• Discretionary Revisions

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests