Reviewer's report

**Title:** Bacteriophage-based tests for the detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in clinical specimens: a systematic review and meta-analysis

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 25 May 2005

**Reviewer:** Ruth McNerney

**Reviewer's report:**

I recommend publication of this article.

**What next?:** Accept without revision

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no personal financial interests that may be affected by this publication. My employers (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine) are currently seeking payment of debts from Biotec Laboratories (manufacturers of the commercial kit) relating to a previous agreement on IPR. These payments are not linked to sales of the test. I am currently investigating alternative technologies for the diagnosis of tuberculosis that might be appropriate for developing countries, work funded by the Department for International Development, UK.