Author's response to reviews

Title: Childhood TB epidemiology and treatment outcomes in Thailand: a TB Active Surveillance Network, 2004 to 2006

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Author's response to reviews: see over
1 July 2008

Dear Biomed Central Editors,

Thank you for accepting our manuscript (“Childhood TB epidemiology and treatment outcomes in Thailand – TB Active Surveillance Network, 2004 to 2006”) for publication. Below you will find a point-by-point response to the formatting changes requested from the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team.

Sincerely,

Rangsima Lolekha, MD
1. Affiliations - Each affiliation should be written in full, in the following format: department, institute, city, and country. For a ministry address, please provide a department or a division as appropriate. Affiliation 7 needs a comma between 'Bangkok' and 'Thailand'.

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have revised format as shown in the blue alphabets. Co-authors #4, #5, and #7 have no department because they are director or deputy director of the institutes.

"Rangsima Lolekha¹, Amornrat Anuwatnonthakate², Sriprapa Nateniyom³, Surin Sumnapun⁴, Norio Yamada⁵, Wanpen Wattanaamornkiet⁶, Wanchai Sattayawuthipong⁷, Pricha Charusuntsornsri⁸, Natpatou Sanguanwongse⁹, Charles D. Wells¹⁰, and Jay K. Varma²,¹⁰*
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2. Funding - Please move the statement of funding to the Acknowledgements section and remove the 'Funding' section from page 9.

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have removed the 'Funding' section from page 10 in the revised version.

3. Section headings - Please use sentence case for all headings and sub-headings in the manuscript (i.e. remove all unnecessary capitals). For example, 'Case finding and incidence' not 'Case Finding and Incidence', 'Treatment outcomes' not 'Treatment Outcomes' and so on.

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have removed all unnecessary capitals from all section headings.
4. Column headings - Please use sentence case for all headings and sub-headings in the manuscript (i.e. remove all unnecessary capitals). For example, 'Transferred out' not 'Transferred Out', 'Cured or completed' not 'Cured or Completed' and so on.

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have removed all unnecessary capitals from all column headings and sub-headings (page 26-29 in the revised version).

5. Replace 'en dash' with 'to' - Please may we suggest that you use the word 'to' instead of the 'en dash' where it refers to a range of month/year throughout the manuscript. For example:
'Table 5 Factors associated with default versus successful (cure or completed) outcome among childhood TB cases in Thailand, October 2004 to September 2006' instead of 'Table 5: Factors associated with default vs. successful (cure or completed) outcome among childhood TB cases - Thailand, October 2004 - September 2006'

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have replaced ‘en dash’ with ‘to’ where it refers to a range of month/year throughout the manuscript (page 1, 24-29 in the revised version).

6. Table citations - Please may we suggest that the tables are cited within a sentence and please remove the bold where the tables are mentioned throughout the manuscript. For example:
'Lymph nodes were the most common extrapulmonary site (Table 1).’ instead of 'Lymph nodes were the most common extrapulmonary site. [Table 1]'

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have revised format of table citations as recommendation (page 11, 13-14 in the revised version).

7. Page 15 - Please remove the full stop between the word 'system' and the '(Thailand MOPH, unpublished data)' - please see the 'The minimum prevalence of HIV infection in children (27%) was similar to that in adults (31%) recorded in our surveillance system.(Thailand MOPH, unpublished data).'

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: The full stop between the word ‘system’ and the ‘(Thailand MOPH, unpublished data)’ was removed (page 16 in the revised version).

8. Page 8 - Please use 'USA' instead of 'U.S.'

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have changed ‘U.S.’ to ‘USA’ (page 9 in the revised version).

9. Decimal points in numbers - Please ensure that you format numerical values in UK style, for example on page 10:
'p<0.01' not 'p<.01'

Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: We have changed format numerical values in UK style as recommendation (page 11 in the revised version).
10. Ref 19 - Please put the website address in square brackets. For example:
Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: Ref 19 - we have put the website address in square brackets as recommendation (page 23 in the revised version).

11. Table title - Please remove the full stop from the end of the table title (see Tables 1-5).
Response to the Biomed Central Editorial Production Team: All full stops were removed from the end of the table title (page 24-29 in the revised version).