Reviewer’s report

Title: Screening for Latent Tuberculosis Infection among Undocumented Migrants in Swiss Healthcare Centres; a Descriptive Exploratory Study

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Reviewer: Daphne Ling

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have conducted an exploratory study on undocumented immigrants, who make up a hard-to-reach and seldom-studied population. They conclude that not only should efforts focus on screening but also on improving adherence, given that less than one-third of the immigrants with LTBI completed preventive therapy in their study.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. In the last paragraph of the Results section, the third sentence should read “Among the 18 immigrants…”

2. In Table 1, the item “Proximity with other people” appears irrelevant to the objectives of the study for LTBI. It does not add much information given that most people have participated in these activities in their lifetime. It is unclear what point the authors are trying to make with this item.

3. In Figure 1, the number of refusals adds to 31. Either the number in the first box or the second box is incorrect.

Discretionary Revisions

4. The study would benefit from information on the BCG vaccination status of the immigrants and the association, if any, of the vaccine with the TSPOT results. Given that the authors have data on the countries represented, a reasonable inference can be made on the BCG status.

5. Was the TSPOT test ever validated by the authors? There was no serial testing performed. Given that conversions and reversions have been an issue with the Quantiferon test, another interferon-gamma based assay, and TST was not done, it is uncertain whether the TSPOT results represent true or false positives.

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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.