Reviewer's report

Title: Clinico-epidemiological profile and diagnostic procedures of pediatric tuberculosis in a tertiary care hospital of western Nepal- A case-series analysis

Version: 3 Date: 19 April 2010

Reviewer: Robert R.P. Gie

Reviewer's report:

The authors respond to the concerns of the 2 previous reviewers. The greatest concern is that the deductions are not correct or statistically substantiated the data from the article e.g. extrathoracic TB is more common in children older than 10 years or that pulmonary Tb is mosre common in children younger than 4 years of age.

A further example is the last sentence of the abstract that stated that "diagnostic procedures followed by clinicians need a more systematic approach". There is no analysis or data to substantiate this statement.

The manuscript has numerous errors in which should have been corrected by the second submission e.g. 2 million people are infected by TB or in the text it refers to children less than 4 years but in the fig 1 it refers to children less than 3 years.

Although the topic of interest is important the lack of scientific approach and many errors in the manuscript make it unlikely to contribute to the literature.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I do not have any conflict of interest.