Reviewer’s report

Title: Epidemiology of Anti-tuberculosis Drug Resistance in a Chinese Population: Current Situation and Challenges Ahead

Version: 2 Date: 10 January 2011

Reviewer: PENG WU

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have revised the manuscript based on the comments. However some important issues have to be solved before the manuscript is qualified to publish.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. In the last reviewer’s report, it was mentioned that the interpretation of odds ratios (ORs) was problematic. Unfortunately I found that the problem remains in the current version. For example, Page 11, the authors wrote “We found that patients with previous treatment history had more than 6-fold increased risk of MDR-TB (adjusted OR: 6.14, 95% CI: 4.61-8.17)”. Apparently this sentence implies that the OR was incorrectly interpreted. There are two common ways to interpret ORs. In this case, the authors could say “The patients with previous treatment history had a more than 5-fold increased risk of MDR-TB (adjusted OR: 6.14, 95% CI: 4.61-8.17), compared with those previously not having been treated.”, or the result can also be interpreted as “The risk of MDR-TB for patients with previous treatment history is more than 6-times of that for those without a previous treatment history.” There are a few similar mistakes observed in Results and Abstract in the manuscript.

Minor Essential Revisions

2. It is a bit difficult to understand the reason why the authors applied geographic presentation to indicate the difference in MDR-TB prevalence in different places. Although Figure 3 is geographically clear, the varied risks of MDR-TB represented by values in the figure with three colors seemed rather confusing.

3. The meaning of P values showed in Figure 4 was not defined although three P values have been presented in the figure. What do these P values mean?

4. A number of problematic sentences with grammar errors remain (e.g. Page 13, Line 4-5) and a number of typos (e.g. Page 13, Line 9, “system review”) throughout the manuscript should also be corrected.

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.