Reviewer’s report

Title: Community health workers improve contact tracing among immigrants with tuberculosis in Barcelona

Version: 3 Date: 17 December 2011

Reviewer: Héctor Javier Sánchez Pérez

Reviewer’s report:

I consider the authors have answered the observations well, but the following minor essential revisions are needed:

Comments:
- Abstract, Results: I suggest to create one category which include hospitals B and D (without contact tracing team), and another one that include hospitals A, C and E. The table 2 shows that there are these two groups of hospitals.
- Subjects, materials and methods, third paragraph (variables): What is “GP”? General Physician?
  In the same paragraph: What is “ACS”?
- Community health workers: What criteria were used to calculate the number of hours worked by each CHW? For example, CHW who attended Asia (112 cases), had 12 hours, but CHW who attended North Africa (70 cases) had 20 hours, and CHW who attended Latin American cases (n=152), had the same 20 hours. (p. 6)

Minor issues not for publication:
- Contact tracing performed, 2nd paragraph: Says: Given the low coverage of contact tracing performed, observed in immigrant population in the pre-intervention period… It must say: Given the low coverage of contact tracing performed observed in immigrant population in the pre-intervention period…
- Discussion: Fourth paragraph, where says: even to those who had no righ of residence.
  It must say: even to those who had no right of residence.

With these corrections, I think the manuscript can be published. As I said in my first communication, I do not see duplication or plagiarism, and I do not believe that research has been falsified or manipulated. Also, I have no confidential comments to editors.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.