Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and risk factors for drug resistance tuberculosis in northeastern China

Version: 1 Date: 8 July 2013

Reviewer: Ruth McNerney

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1 Necessary revision : The recommendation to delay commencing treatment until after drug susceptibility testing and to tailor treatment for patients with mono drug resistant disease is controversial and requires further discussion.

2 Discretionary revision: The reduced MDR in older patients may reflect reactivation of latent drug sensitive disease vs spread of recently emerged MDR strains

Minor revisions
3 Abstract italicise Mycobacteria tuberculosis.

The following phrases need amendment to clarify the meaning.
4 Poorer sanitations
5 follows by
6 Chemical treatment
7 Ethics has been respected throughout study period
8 Samples ran into the final analysis
9 Observed maximum any resistance

Typographical errors
10 2ed – 2nd
11 wound – would

12 The statement ‘Compared with patients with MDR-TB, patients with XDR-TB are more likely to die of have treatment failure should be supported by a reference.

13 The statement The XDR-TB were distributed nationwide, albeit sporadically requires clarification.
   i) It should be cases of XDR-TB, or patients with XDR-TB.
   ii) This was not a national study

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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests