Reviewer’s report

Title: Local level epidemiological analysis of TB in people from a high incidence country of birth in a low incidence setting

Version: 1 Date: 24 June 2012

Reviewer: Gerard de Vries

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript is well-written; the study concerns a relevant issue in TB control in low incidence countries, although it was studied in other low incidence settings before.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Line 102. I’m puzzled about the definition of high-incidence countries (>60/100,000), why not 50? The reference (#16) is not providing the supportive information on definition high-incidence countries.

(Please change the s into z in WH Organisation).

2. Suggest to use average yearly population in Table 1 and not to repeat population data in Results (line 152, 155).

3. Please check rate in high-inc for-born pop (61.2 in line 157, 62.03 in line 366)

4. I’m surprised that the highest rate in hgh-inc for-born local area (295) is not appearing in Table 2 - probably not significant.

5. Line 169-172 is not in Table 2. In the Discussion new information appears in line 247-248 (although in Results of the Abstract). Please combine it in Results, if possible in Table. It will reduce Results paragraph which is rather long.

6. Table 4 and 5 could easily be combined in an extra sentence in paragraph line 183-185.

7. Please consider not to end the Discussion paragraph with limitations..

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Report only one digital figures/rates, so not 6.85 in line 155, 2.29 (line 180), 12.05 (line 190) and in Table lines 366, 373 - columns 4-7, 376 - last 3 columns, etc.

2. Change in line 39 "TB incidence rates" into "TB notification rates".

3. Delete "reported being" in line 156.

4. Suggest to use 77-117 (without digitalis) in line 165, please check 117.

5. Delete CI in line 180, it is already in the Table.

6. Line 212: 300/100,000 population

7. Paragraph Line 231-238 is besides the scope of this study. Addressing access, language and cultural issues was mentioned in paragraph before.
Discretionary Revisions
1. Please consider shortening the title, e.g. by deleting the last 5 words.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.