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:** 2  **Date:** 13 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Gerard de Vries

**Reviewer’s report:**

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 Essential Revisions**

1. Line 163-165. Although explanation of authors is plausible, I suggest to remove this sentence since it cannot be retrieved from Table 2.
2. Line 168. Add in brackets Table 2.
3. Line 169-173: This paragraph is confusing, since this data cannot be retrieved from Table 3. I would suggest either to replace with “Four of these LGAs also had higher TB rates in the non-HIC population (Table 3). Full stop. Or, to continue: In four other metropolitan and one regional LGA TB rates were also significantly higher in the HIC population (and add these rates in Table 3 for Metro 10-14).
4. Line 181: Table 3 should be Table 4.
5. Line 388: Change Table 1: column 2 into actual number of notified cases as was done in previous manuscript. I had difficulties to get back to the 1401 cases. Leave column 3 and 4 as it is, i.e. average population and (annualized) crude notification, maybe adding per year or annual.
6. Line 391-393, 396-398: The tables show only data when RR is higher than 1, so this selection should be in the heading of Tables 2 and 3.
7. Since average population was used in Table 1, this should be repeated in Tables 2 and 3, e.g. the NSW HIC population is 575,537 instead of 1,724,211. Delete the CI of the last line (58-66), since it is a CI of the rate and not of the RR, as in other lines of the tabel.
8. Table 3: Suggest to add a last line with NSW figures for non-HIC population as was done in Table 2, i.e. NSW non-HIC, 330 cases, 6.2m population, TB rate 1.8

**Minor Essential Revisions**

1. Line 120: Change Local Government Areas into LGAs
2. Line 157: Add “was” i.e. 8.6% of the population was born
3. Line 169: Do you mean LGA instead of area?

**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.