Reviewer's report

Title: Determinants of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in patients who underwent first-line treatment in addis ababa: a case control study

Version: 3 Date: 15 July 2013

Reviewer: Anil Pooran

Reviewer's report:

The authors have done a good job at editing the manuscript. The grammar and sentence construction is vastly improved and makes the manuscript much clearer and easier to follow. Additionally, the authors have sufficiently addressed most of this reviewer’s concerns. Indeed, the conclusions drawn from the analysis are not surprising and somewhat apparent, it does add to the literature of MDR-TB development in high burden settings. There are a few minor revisions that I would like to suggest but I would recommend acceptance of the manuscript once these are completed.

Discretionary Revisions

1. While it is fine to state the drug abbreviations for the category I and II treatment regimens, perhaps it is better to write out the months rather than write these in short form as well.

2. The second sentence in paragraph 5 of Background section beginning “Prevention of MDR-TB is the best option…..” does not make sense to me. Please reword.

3. In the second sentence of the “Treatment related conditions” of the results section, it should be 69 cases rather than 61, based on table 3.

4. In the same paragraph, when stating the reasons for interruption, put the word “cases” after stating the number of cases rather than just placing the numbers after the sentence e.g. “…..and the perception that TB was cured 29 (31.2%)” should become “and the perception of TB was cured in 29 cases”.

5. At the end of paragraph 7 of the discussion, the authors need to better explain their finding of an association of MDR development and pulmonary TB. This was touched upon in the reviewer comments but was not fully explained in the manuscript text. If there is a lack of infrastructure and expertise in collecting EPTB samples resulting in undiagnosed EP MDRTB cases then state this.

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