Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk factors for pulmonary tuberculosis in Croatia: a matched case-control study

Version: 3 Date: 16 September 2013

Reviewer: Marieke J. van der Werf

Reviewer’s report:

Introduction section
The authors describe the current epidemiological situation. Since the study is a historical study using data collected in 2008-2008 they should describe the epidemiological situation in those years.

Methods section
The authors wrote ‘The idea was to include more than 50% of the Croatian population’. Since they included 300 controls this does not seem to make sense.

The authors have added a lot of text to the methods section. To me this text does not seem useful in explaining why the authors believe that the cases and the controls came from the same source population. What I now understand is that the controls were selected from the GP registries and the cases from the TB registry. I suggest that the authors provide in a few sentences the information that explains why they consider this the same source population.

Discussion section
Since the presented results cover the period 2006-2008 it would be good if the authors explain how the situation has changed (as they did in the introduction) and how this might affect the results.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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