Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Trend of microbiologically-confirmed tuberculosis in a low-incidence setting with high immigration rates

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 10 March 2014

**Reviewer:** Troels Lillebaek

**Reviewer’s report:**

I have the following minor comments:

1) You write:

“All bacteriologically confirmed TB cases (n=255) identified in our Unit between January 2008 and December 2011 were included in the study. Since a total of 474 bacteriologically confirmed TB have been reported in Bologna during the same period [9,11,12], this study accounts for 53.8% of the total TB cases in Bologna, making the data representative of disease trends of the metropolitan area.”

Please mention how many cases were not culture confirmed in the same area and time period (to know the culture confirmation rate).

2) You write:

“Extensively drug-resistant (XDR)isolates were defined according to WHO definitions.”

Give reference.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**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.'