Reviewer's report

**Title:** Tuberculosis recurrence and mortality rates in successfully treated tuberculosis patients in southern Ethiopia: retrospective cohort study

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 14 July 2009

**Reviewer:** Asma ElSony

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# The manuscript addresses an important aspect of tuberculosis original and of interest in its field.

# The methods are appropriate and well described, and sufficient details are provided to replicate the work. There are no apparent errors of fact or logic.

# The objectives of the manuscript were to identify Tuberculosis recurrence and mortality rates in successfully treated tuberculosis.

# In page 2, methods section: page 4 data collection you need to add a statement that no HIV result was available

# "In southern Ethiopia, the prevalence of HIV infection in the general population and TB patients was 3.8% and 17.5% in southern Ethiopia explains the role of HIV infection," it would have been advisable to include the sero status of your sample population to exclude co morbidity and then survival curves would look different.

# Limitations: add a sentence in discussion area.

Additional correction

# Page 8 paragraph 3: Of the 725 TB patients followed add which were followed