Reviewer's report

Title: A web-based laboratory information system to improve quality of care of tuberculosis patients in Peru: functional requirements, implementation and usage statistics

Version: 1 Date: 22 August 2007

Reviewer: Thomas Shinnick

Reviewer's report:

General

The authors report the development and deployment of a web-based laboratory reporting system in Peru. The authors describe the steps taken in designing the system in a logical and thorough manner. The functional requirements of the system are well defined. The 'Lessons learned' section contains important information for anyone interested in building a similar system.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. The manuscript could be considerably strengthened by some information on how the authors were able to solve some of the problems they encountered. For example, what was the approach to ensure that minor misspellings of a patient's name did not result in duplicate records?

2. Some information should be provided on the performance of the system.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. How was user satisfaction measured?

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Reject because too small an advance to publish

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

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