Reviewer's report

Title: Risk factors for non-cure among new sputum smear positive tuberculosis patients treated in tuberculosis dispensaries in Yunnan, China

Version: 2 Date: 13 January 2011

Reviewer: Syed Tariq

Reviewer's report:

The authors highlighted that a significant minority were not aware of the need to go to local CDC for follow-up etc. Were these patients also more likely to miss their DOT doses?

I gather that in Table 1 the p value of 0.01 given for DOT compares any form of DOT vs no DOT. If so, it should be clarified by a footnote at the bottom of the table.

In Table 2 there is a discrepancy between the total number of patients given at the (N = 813) and the figure given as footnote (818). This needs to be corrected.

Please make a few minor changes as listed below:

Page 7: Change 'Seventh-one percent' to 'Seventy-one percent'
Page 7, last sentence: Change 'less often had an unsuccessful' to 'had a more successful'
Page 8, last para, line 3: Change 'not being cured' to 'non-cure'
Page 9, 2nd para, line 2: Change 'treatment observation' to 'lack of treatment observation'
Page 9, para 2, line 5: Remove the word 'If' at the start of the sentence
Page 10, last para, line 4: Change 'compliance to treatment' to 'compliance with treatment'

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.