Reviewer's report

Title: Health-service performance of TB treatments for indigenous and non-indigenous populations in Brazil: cross-sectional study.

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Reviewer: Jaime Robledo

Reviewer's report:

The present study has the objective to evaluate the performance of two tuberculosis control programs (indigenous and non-indigenous population) in Dourados, a city located in Mato Grosso do Sul state in south Brazil. The manuscript is well written and addresses particular pitfalls related to how well tuberculosis control programs deal with the particularities related to different populations. In particular the manuscript has important data about how DOTs strategy impact the control of tuberculosis in dissimilar human groups located in the same area. Even though, indigenous and non indigenous population studied have different approaches from the point of view of activities of the tuberculosis control program.

One may infers from the data presented that despite the decentralization of tuberculosis care being on place for several years still persists major difficulties on controlling tuberculosis in this area. Data from this study point to delayed diagnosis and barriers on access to health care centers as the main problems to be addressed.

As minor essential revisions I recommend the following:
- Despite of the clear and well presented data, information related to the final outcome of patients is lacking, how many of the 109 patients abandon?, how many have a treatment fail? This information will give the manuscript a context related to the general performance of the tuberculosis control program in this area.
- I may suggest to authors to add a map of Brazil and locate Dourados, this for potential readers of the manuscript non familiar to the country geography.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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