Reviewer’s report

Title: Adherence to Anti-tuberculosis Treatment among Pulmonary Tuberculosis Patients: a Qualitative and Quantitative Study

Version: 1 Date: 11 March 2009

Reviewer: Earl Hershfield

Reviewer’s report:

1. Major compulsory revisions: Data collection: "representative samples": does not fit with rest of sentence. Why only non-adherent patients and local health workers had in-depth interviews? What are liver protection drugs, name them, and quote literature for their use. Hepatic adverse reactions of 11.9% appears high. Were they biochemical only or biochemical plus a clinical component? What were the other adverse reactions and how many patients stopped drug taking because of them? A completion rate of at least 90% appears high for this study, other programs use only 80% of doses for completion. Explain. Quote literature. How do patients know the difference between generic drugs and privately purchased ones? Is there continuing education for private physicians and health workers about T.B. 2 Minor Revisions: Explain what "withdrawal beforehand" means. What is "Laobing"? 3. Discretionary Revisions: Remove all anecdotal references.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.

sts