Reviewer's report

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

Version: 3 Date: 22 May 2009

Reviewer: Salla Atkins

Reviewer's report:

I would like to thank the authors for their response to my comments and the revisions they have made.

1. Major compulsory revisions
- Please do another language check before this is published. E.g. use of word stigmata in abstract is rather unfortunate.

2. Minor essential revisions
- Please move detailed information about loss to follow up from discussion to beginning of results.
- Please provide the reference for the type of content analysis used
- Aim to provide policy makers with recommendation for interventions to improve TB treatment in China not applicable. Study was only conducted in Jiangsu province and is not representative of entire China.
- change retreated patients to retreatment patients
- Mention that sampling for qualitative part was convenience sampling
- Mention what the training and background of interviewers were in text.
- page 11, top line, reference 4 seems incorrect. Reference 4 in fact present different groupings of factors than what the authors present (5 groupings, where social and economic are merged, for example). Reference 13 there is correct. Please re-check your referencing carefully.

3. Discretionary revisions
- Have you considered, that given there was better adherence when drugs were delivered, that there was some issue of transport? Did this not emerge from qualitative findings? It would make sense that patients too ill to walk long distances, or poor ones without means to pay for transport would adhere less well.

Regards
Salla

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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests