Reviewer's report

Title: A Randomized Trial of Multivitamin Supplementation in Children with Tuberculosis in Tanzania

Version: 2 Date: 27 September 2011

Reviewer: Marianne Visser

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for addressing my previous comments. Unfortunately there are a few outstanding issues that I feel need to be addressed:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. Abstract: You refer to the significant increase in serum albumin among HIV-infected children and among those who received placebo. However, this finding is not presented in the results? In the discussion (para 5) you refer to the increase in serum albumin in all children?

2. Results: (3rd para) you refer to the height gain among HIV-infected children between the ages of 6 months and 3 years and indicate that 79 HIV-infected children were included in the analysis. Table 1 indicates that a total number of 23+29 children were included in the 6months-3years age stratum and 10+17 children in the > 3 years stratum, respectively. Were HIV-infected infants (n=8) not included in the analysis? Please clarify.

3. Results: (5th para) you refer to the fact that the increase in Hb was not significant among females. What is the significance of this finding? Perhaps you were underpowered?

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Abstract: when referring to a significant increase in a parameter, the effect size should preferably be included eg. "significant differences in weight gain were observed among children aged 6 months to 3 years..." (? g vs. ? g; 95% CI ?; ? p< ? )

2. Table 1:
Delete Number (%) in bold. Rather insert n (%) next to each categorical variable eg.
Age, n (%)
HIV-infected, n (%)
Delete "by Age categories" next to HIV-infected

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
**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.