Author’s response to reviews

Title: Investigation of the high rates of extrapulmonary tuberculosis in Ethiopia reveals no single driving factor and minimal evidence for zoonotic transmission of Mycobacterium bovis infection

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Response to reviewer

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Minor essential revisions

Methods
1. Please replace volunteer by: “All consecutive and consenting patients with …”

Response: Comment accepted. Replaced as advised.

Results
1. Please, you continue to report the results of other authors in results section (lines 317-318).

Response: The reference is to previous work done by the authors and is appropriately cited. We think that mentioning the previous report is important for readers to link the data in this publication with earlier work.

2. Delete the last sentence of table 3 title or place it in table footnotes.

Response: Deleted as advised.

3. It is not important to include rel% columns in the table 2.

Response: We agree. Removed as advised

Discussion
1. Please, try to summarize the main findings earlier in the discussion section.

Response: Have added an opening sentence that summarizes the findings of this study: “This study identified no major patient or bacterial strain factor that alone could be responsible for the high rate of TBLN in Ethiopia. In addition, no association was found with HIV infection. ”

2. The limitation section should come before conclusion and not to be included in conclusion section.

Response: Sentence is removed from conclusion and brought under discussion. (Lines 506-514)

Conclusion
I didn’t see the following sentence (the one you proposed to improve conclusion) in the conclusion section of main manuscript (you added only in abstract): “The
study suggests a complex role for multiple interacting factors in the epidemiology of extrapulmonary TB in Ethiopia, including factors that can only be derived from population-based studies, which may prove to be significant for TB control in Ethiopia.”

Response: Sentence is added to conclusion as advised (Lines 522-525)

Thank you for the suggestions!