Reviewer’s report

Title: Rifampin resistance and diabetes mellitus in a cross-sectional study of adult patients in rural South India

Version: 1  Date: 30 May 2015

Reviewer: John M Tembo

Reviewer’s report:

Major Revisions

N/A

Minor Essential Revisions

Table 1 seems to be a little confusing especially with respect to the Diabetes data. Is it possible for authors to include a separate contingency table to represent the diabetes data and show the distribution of diabetic patients between the groups of patients with and without a positive T.B result by Xpert MTB/RIF assay?

Discretionary Revisions

Limitations are stated however there is no adequate reason given as to why culture was not done on the sputum samples collected in the study Xpert is used as the Gold Standard but it is widely not regarded as such. Is there any other reason the authors didn’t use culture? Also why was Diabetes not confirmed with a biological indicator? Was any data collected on where and when these patients received their diabetes diagnosis? I think authors need to clarify these points.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.