Reviewer’s report

Title: The association between tuberculin skin test result and active tuberculosis risk of college students in Beijing, China: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 06 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Sheng-Yuan Ruan

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate the authors' responses to my comments. The authors have revised their manuscript accordingly. However, the revision has further exposed some weak points of this study. For example, there is inconsistency in case numbers between the original and revised manuscript (Table 1). That raises the concern about the accuracy of statistical analysis. I have few more comments for their revised manuscript.

1. The manuscript requires English editing.
2. The follow-up plan should be clearly addressed in the manuscript because it is concerning detection bias. For example, how frequent were the subjects evaluated during the follow-up period? Is CXR a mandatory examination during the follow-up? How many TB cases were diagnosed due to the follow-up procedure and how many cases were diagnosed due to TB-related symptoms?
3. Please address your policy about latent TB infection (LTBI) treatment in the manuscript. If no any subject received LTBI treatment in the study, it should be maintained in the manuscript as well.
4. The sentences in lines 170-173 are confusing. Please fix the problem of brackets.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license ([http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal