Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and correlates of depression and anxiety among patients with tuberculosis on-follow up at Wolaita Sodo University Hospital and Sodo Health Center, Wolaita Sodo, SNNPRS, Ethiopia.

Version: 2

Date: 7 February 2015

Reviewer: Sarah Doucette

Reviewer's report:

The current manuscript entitled: “Prevalence and correlates of depression and anxiety among TB patients, and demographic, clinical and psychosocial correlates. TB medication adherence is paramount in controlling the disease, and therefore, determining modifiable correlates of anxiety and depression, which leads to poor adherence, is of importance with significant clinical implications. Unfortunately, the methods are not adequately described, making it difficult to assess the study’s scientific soundness. Specific limitations are discussed below.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Study population – There is very little information on how these patients were recruited. How many were from the original pool of patients, and how many consented vs. refused to participate? Do you have information on those who refused to participate? If so please report this information, or comment on potential selection biases associated with study sample ascertainment. The author’s state that they used a systematic sampling technique, however, this technique is not described. Were patients randomly selected?

2. Measures – Please provide adequate references for the study measures used, and comment on the validity, and reliability of these measures. Are there any established cutoffs for the stigma scale? Did the authors look at the distribution before cutting at the mean? This approach can bias findings towards the null in some multi-modal distributions. If there are no established cut points, the authors could easily keep this variable as continuous. The authors did not describe how they measured substance use.

3. Who administered the questionnaires?

4. It's not clear what the authors did to determine their sampling interval. Please elaborate.

5. Discussion – The authors need to include a limitations section. Further, a limitation of this study is the timing of measurements beyond the cross-sectional nature. Patients who are acutely depressed or anxious may rate different levels of social support or stigma, compared to patients in remission.
Minor Essential Revisions
6. This manuscript needs to be edited for English grammar. There are several grammatical errors throughout, making some sections difficult to understand.
7. The results section in the abstract is very difficult to follow and understand. This should be revised.
8. The title implies that there was a longitudinal component to this study by including “on follow-up”. I would revise this to something else.

Discretionary Revisions
9. Consider omitting the pie chart as it does not add any value to the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests