Reviewer's report

Title: TB treatment delays and associated factors within the Zimbabwe National Tuberculosis programme

Version: 1 Date: 6 May 2014

Reviewer: Anamaria Jurcev-Savicevic

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Minor Essential Revisions

I read this report with interest because it is addressing a very important issue in the context of TB control. Although the findings are not surprising or absolutely novel, this study took significant effort to consider the TB treatment delay and associated factors within the Zimbabwe National Tuberculosis Programme. However, I found that the manuscript needs some minor revisions.

1. Abstract
   It would be interesting to include in the abstract section proportion of the patients who experienced delays >30 days for PD and 15 days for HSD, especially because you chose these cut offs as delays to understand abstract conclusion accordingly.

2. Introduction
   Provide the TB data from the newest Global TB Report.

3. Results
   What was the refusal rate?

4. Discussion
   Could you explain in more detail uncommon practice to take self-medication for TB-related symptoms (any reference?)

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

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