Reviewer's report

Title: Tuberculosis Treatment Outcome and Predictors in Northern Ethiopian Prisons: a five-year retrospective analysis

Version: 0 Date: 27 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Lorenzo Zammarchi

Reviewer's report:

This is a simple but very clear and interesting retrospective report on the performance of a TB treatment program in Ethiopian prisons. The authors report a very high treatment success rate in that prisons.

It would be interesting to have more information concerning the conditions in which the prisoners live for example the average number of subjects per prison cell, if the cell are aerated, the adequacy and the type of food provided to prisoners, whether the prisoners must perform forced labour, whether the TB patients are isolated from other prisoners. It would be also interesting to have more information about the size of the prisons (i.e. the total number of prisoners considering both TB patients and non infected individuals), whether the TB cases were acquired in the prisons or not and the diagnostic delay (time between symptoms onset and the onset of treatment following the diagnosis). All that factors could partially explain the good performance of the TB program in these prisons together with the good performance of the DOT strategy as reported by the authors.

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.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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