Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge and practice of Tuberculosis infection control among health professionals in Northwest Ethiopia

Version: 1 Date: 30 July 2013

Reviewer: Kashef Ijaz

Reviewer's report:

General comments - this is an important paper highlighting the importance of training of healthcare professionals in infection control and its potential impact on the knowledge and practice of infection control practices. However, the paper needs major revisions and editing

Specific comments:

Abstract:
- Background line #3 - unclear where and when was the "recent rapid assessment..." done and what were the findings
- Methods - line #1 the number "313" should be part of results and not methods. Also, the study seems more like a hybrid study design with a combination of cross-sectional study to identify the prevalence of training among healthcare professionals with a cohort study embedded where there were some healthcare professionals who got trained and other who did not get trained and the impact of training on the knowledge and practice of infection control
- Results - the first section needs major editing something like "A total of 313 healthcare professionals were enrolled from four healthcare facilities. The response rate was 96%. Only 18.8% got in-service training. Among those who were trained, 74.4%......"
- Unclear what is the definition of good knowledge and good practice in the results section of the abstract

Background:
- Paragraph #2, line #1, M. tuberculosis should be italicized
- Paragraph #2, line #7, the letter "T" in "Turkey" should be capitalized
- Paragraph #4, line #7, TB transmission has serious consequences for all types of TB i.e., pansensitive or MDR
- Page #4, line #3-5 - these should be deleted and should be in discussion
- Page #4, first full paragraph - "There was evidence....." is repititious and should be deleted
- Page #4, paragraph #2 - "Ethiopia has recently......" is a commentary and can be included in discussion and should be deleted from this section
Methods:
- Page 4, first paragraph - needs to be reworded "The study involved four hospitals that were located in ......."
- Page 4, para #2, the study design should be corrected to hybrid study design
- Pages 5 and 6 need major editing and should be shortened

Results:
- Second paragraph - it mentions table 1, but there is no table 1 included
- Under TB infection control knowledge section - line three, check spellings, it should be "window opening" and not "widow opening"
- TB infection control knowledge section should be deleted and explained by including a table
- Multivarite logistic regression model should be reviewed by a statistician, unclear on dependent and independent variables
- The Multivarite logistic regression model table needs to be reformatted since it is out of alignment

Discussion - This section is too wordy and needs to be shortened substantially

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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'