Author’s response to reviews

Title: Patient and health care system characteristics are associated with delayed treatment of tuberculosis cases in Taiwan

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1. In the Ethics approval and consent to participate section, please explicitly state whether any administrative permissions and/or licenses were acquired by your team for your research.

Response: Thanks. We have added the following sentence.

“In addition, we applied the data from Health and Welfare Data Science Center, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan and got the permission for analyzing the data.”

2. Please remove the 'Not applicable' from beneath the 'Declarations' heading as this is a heading for all of the sub sections below.

Response: Thanks. We have removed the words.

3. In your 'Availability of Data and Materials' section, please include the full name of the ethics committee/IRB that readers will need to contact if they wish to access the data.

Response: The researchers need to apply the IRB from their institutions.
“Researchers need to obtain permission from the Institutional Review Board of their institutions and apply for access to the data from the Health and Welfare Data Science Center, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan.”

4. Please confirm whether the map and compass images provided in Figure 1 are your own or taken from another source.

If taken from another source please acknowledge the source in the figure legend, and if it is under copyright also state the written permission given to use and adapt it.

If the above conditions are not met the image needs to be removed. Please note the editors may request proof of permission at any time.

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Response: The figure 1 is drawn by the corresponding author, Ta-Chien Chan.

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response: We have uploaded the clean version.