Reviewer's report

Title: Spot sputum samples are at least as good as early morning samples for identifying Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Version: 1 Date: 22 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Adithya Cattamanchi

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed the key comments. Only minor suggestion is to report the number and proportion of spot and EMS samples rejected based on insufficient volume and quality. It's useful to know how often this happens (if it happens a lot, it further diminishes the value of collecting an EMS sample). Related to this, the authors clarified that when an EMS sample was rejected a spot sample was collected in its place. It's not clear if patients were then excluded or this spot sample was analyzed along with other EMS samples or with other spot samples.

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.

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Yes

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