Reviewer’s report

Title: Associations of ambient air pollutants with regional pulmonary tuberculosis incidence in the central Chinese province of Hubei: a Bayesian spatial-temporal analysis

Version: 1 Date: 12 Apr 2020

Reviewer: Maquines Sewe

Reviewer's report:

The paper has greatly improved from the original version with the authors addressing most of my initial comments and suggestions on looking at lags. However, the manuscript may still need another look, especially on language. Please see some of my comments and suggestions on language below:

comment 1

abstract:

reword the sentence

line 11 :"Pulmonary tuberculosis (PTB) is a complex disease caused by environmental, socioeconomic and other risk factors. These are factors that increase the risk of ptb but don't cause it. Ptb is caused by mycobacterium bacteria, make this clear.

Line 13: Instead of saying "and regional PTB notification incidence" may be just ptb incidence is enough?

Introduction

Page 2 Line 11: 98 % cities should 98% of cities

Page 2 line 22 : "In China, due to the rapid development of urbanization and transportation infrastructure" , please rewrite to make clear

The use of ptb incidence/ ptb notifiable case should be consistent, better just use PTB incidence

Methods
Line 39: "TB case notifications in each city were received from the system" should be "TB case notifications in each city were retrieved from the system"?

Results

Line 21 "increase in SO2 concentration may cause a 4.6% increased risk in regional PTB case notifications" should be rewritten, for example to "increase in SO2 concentration increases the risk of regional PTB case notifications by 4.6%"

Discussion

Line 32 "increased the risk of TB from 1993 to 2007", did you mean between 1993 and 2007 and by what margin?

Line 22: please explain clearly how smoking could explain the sex disparity observed

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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