Reviewer’s report

Title: Quality of reporting of outcomes in phase II studies of pulmonary tuberculosis

Version: 1 Date: 9 October 2015

Reviewer: Elizabeth Lutge

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this paper.

Minor Essential Revisions

Under methods, first paragraph, the authors state that the list of drugs included in their analysis included those "for which there is an active phase II clinical development programme"; however, these were not listed and it is not clear what these additional drugs are and if they are different from those drugs that were listed. Authors should clarify this.

Under Trial Characteristics, first paragraph, the authors state that trials compared different combinations, doses and administration schedules of drugs, as if this were problematic. In fact, this is what trials should do, in order to find the optimum combination/dose or administration schedule. Therefore they should revise this section, as it is appropriate for trials to differ on these counts, and indeed, amending these aspects of trials was not part of their recommendations.

Labels are missing on Figures 1 and 2.

Discretionary Revisions

Under Results, fifth paragraph, it would be useful if the authors described briefly how different culture media differed, for example, do bacteria grow slower or faster in solid or liquid media; what are the other effects on bacteriological growth of different types of media? Which media are more comparable and which are less comparable?

Under Results, fourth paragraph, the authors should define what a Gaffky code is.

Conclusions section could be divided into conclusions and recommendations.

Recommendations could be separated in to paragraphs each with sub-heading

General assessment and recommendation:

This is a well written paper; the English is good and the subject matter is important.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.