Reviewer's report

Title: Vitamin D deficiency among newly diagnosed tuberculosis patients and their household contacts: a comparative cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 28 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Chalotte Beaudart

Reviewer's report:

Abstract :

- Objective: Objectives also include the search of factors associated with severe vitamin D deficiency in TB subjects. Please update your objectives. Moreover, authors should explain in the methods part of the manuscript why they decided to look after these factors only in TB patients and for severe deficiency only;

- Line 45: information about malnourishment should be removed from the abstract. Indeed, it is not even reported in the results part of the whole manuscript;

- Prevalence of vitamin D deficiency should also be given for HHC group;

- Data about severe vitamin D deficiency should also be given for CC and HHC groups.

Results:

- Line 181: remove the word "level" after BMI;

- Results of BMI of HHC should be given.

- Line 183-186: these results do not deserved to be presented in the written part. Authors should focussed on results where a difference between groups has been showed and should present these results instead;
- Table 2 is still unclear and should not be published in its current format. Authors should present the mean± SD values of vitamin D levels with p-values between groups (exactly in the same format than Table 1);

- The paragraph "prevalence of vitamin D deficiency among the study participants" should be a little be reorganised. Please start with the results about vitamin D insufficiency, then vitamin D deficiency, then severe vitamin D deficiency. Moreover, the prevalence should be presented for the three groups (TB, HHC and CC) and not only for one group. P-values should also be presented each time.

Level of interest
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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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