Reviewer's report

**Title:** Screening for pulmonary tuberculosis in type 2 diabetes elderly: a cross-sectional study in a community hospital

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 14 July 2014

**Reviewer:** Berhanu Feleke

**Reviewer's report:**

Comment to BMC public health

# Minor Essential Revisions

**Abstract**

# Clearly mention your objectives (identify the prevalence of TB in type 2 diabetic patients and its determinants)
# Include the statistical method you employed to answer your study objectives
# Avoid abbreviation in abstract (line number 39)
# Line number 49 (lung cancer) is not your objective
# Key words= chest x-ray do not represent the content of the article

**Introduction**

# Write your introduction by mentioning what is already known about the issues from global figure to local area. Until line 66 you have mentioned the global figure, then from line 66 to line 77 you have mentioned local area (Taiwan ) figure, then from line 74 you backed to the global figure. Do not mix the flow of the idea. First mention the global figure then the local figure will continue there after

**Methods**

# Better to cite reference about the study area (line number 95)
# Better to mention about your quality control issues like pre-test or pilot study.

**Table 1**

# Use consistent decimal digit (recommended 2 decimal digit) you have mentioned only one decimal digit for SD
# Ac and Cr was not mentioned in your abbreviation list

**Table 2**

# ALT not in your abbreviation list

**Table 5**

# Mention the exact figure rather than percentage,
# Mention the confidence interval
# Also mention the reference category
# Try to harmonize your independent variables with dependent variable with time, e.g BMI is a variable that can vary from time to time but you are comparing the current BMI with history of TB (past variable).

Major Compulsory Revisions

Methods

# Have you employed model diagnostic test like hosmer and lemshow goodness of fit test? If no you have to use it and mention in the methodology section

Result

# Mention the result of model diagnostic test(e.g hosmer and lemshow)
# You have mixed clinical significance and statistical significance, e.g line number 150,155, clinical significance but it is statistical significance

Table one

# BMI was mentioned only for 2884 samples, where are the other 203 samples????.

Table 2

# Mention the reference category for your independent variables

# Mention the confidence interval

# The observed count for TB family history in new TB group was “0” so that the logistic regression model will not handle it

# Consider revision including checking the assumption

# Line number 153-157

No need to mention the statistical significance because they are dependent variable list

# Table 3 avoid the p-value column because you are comparing the dependent variable with itself(it is a simple description of your tool to detect the dependent variabel)

# In table 4 you have used the symptom screening tool as a independent variable, the symptom screening tool is dependent variable so it is unscientifical to compare the dependent variables with itself. avoid the symptom screening variables from table 4 and redo the analysis

# Use the adjusted odd ratio in table 4

# All your confidence intervals are too wide meaning that small sample size, in this case you have to check the assumption of logistic regression

Discussion

# Generally discuss based on your objective

# Be concise
**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests'