

Review of: "Rates and Reasons for Relapse of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Adults — “Case of the MUYA Urban Health Zone”"

Amir Alelign¹

¹ University of Gondar

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Manuscript Title: Rates and Reasons for Relapse of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Adults — “Case of the MUYA Urban Health Zone”

Reviewer comment:

General comment

The authors raised a very significant public health concern as the recurrence of pulmonary tuberculosis is a much convenient way to measure the effectiveness of TB control programs and identify the target population groups. The manuscript is well written, incorporating basic research paper sections and sub-sections. The findings are well organized and discussed with sufficient citations to previous similar works. Hence, the manuscript has scientific merit. However, before considering it for publication, I suggest the following specific comments to be addressed.

Specific comments

Title: Please consider modifying the title as suggested below:

“Rates and related factors for relapse of tuberculosis among smear-positive pulmonary tuberculosis patients: the case of -
-----“

Abstract

- No sufficient background statement/s in this section. Hence, please try to introduce the problem and your purpose of study before explaining the objectives.
- The methodology section in the abstract should reflect how your data was analysed and interpreted.
- Please avoid abbreviations/acronyms in this section or define them on their first appearance.
- The conclusion in this section was not drawn based on your findings. Please consider this and contextualize it to your specific study.

Methodology

- Your study population is ‘all forms TB’ patients, including extrapulmonary TB cases. Why was your data limited to

pulmonary cases only?

- What were your 'inclusion and exclusion criteria' in selecting the study participants?
- For example, your study subjects were adults. Why did you exclude children?

Please clarify this.

- How did you address ethical concerns?

Results

- The table numbers should be cited in the main text of the manuscript.
- Your table numbers start from 'Table 2.' You missed 'Table 1,' or otherwise, rewrite the table numbers.
- In Table 2, column 2, you wrote the word 'Effective. What does it represent? Please clarify this.
- How did you consider the impact of HIV/AIDS on the recurrence of TB? If you have the raw data, please incorporate this important variable.

Discussion

- Better to avoid subsections in this section
- What was the limitation of your study? Is it complete by itself?
- Concluding remarks and future directions/implications should be stated