LETTER

# Response to Article "Coinfection with Leprosy and Tuberculosis: A Case Series in Malagasy Patients" [Letter]

Nastiti Intan Permata Sari D, Sarwo Handayani

Center for Biomedical Research, Research Organization for Health, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Cibinong Science Centre, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia

Correspondence: Nastiti Intan Permata Sari, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Cibinong Science Centre, Jl. Raya Jakarta - Bogor Km. 46, Cibinong, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia, Email nastitipermata@gmail.com; nast003@brin.go.id

### Dear editor

We congratulate Rakotoarisaona et al for successfully conducting research in Madagascar studying the case series of coinfection with leprosy and tuberculosis which is important for understanding the oldest and most common mycobacterial infections. Findings from this study show good information of clinical cases in Malagasy patients, there were six cases of leprosy and tuberculosis coinfection.<sup>1</sup>

However, after reviewing this research carefully, we suggest adding the serology data to confirm those infections. Serological testing are valid, cheap, and more sensitive diagnosis of leprosy so there is definitely data.<sup>2</sup> The serology test using PGL-1 which is a specific antigen of *Mycobacterium leprae* that infected leprosy patients.<sup>3</sup>

Other research shows the bacteriological data of tuberculosis also having culturing data, because culturing is a gold standard in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* diagnosis for tuberculosis infection,<sup>4</sup> so this data needs to be added in the discussion.

We sincerely thank you for your concern and look forward to continued efforts in mycobacterial coinfection research one day.

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#### Disclosure

The authors have disclosed that there are no conflicts of interest in this communication.

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