

**Supplementary Table 1. Search terms.**

Online database	Search terms
PubMed	tuberculosis AND (c reactive protein OR CRP) AND English[la] NOT case reports[pt] NOT (animals[mh] NOT humans[mh])
Embase	'tuberculosis'/mj OR 'lung tuberculosis'/exp/mj OR tuberculosis:ab,ti AND ('c reactive protein' OR crp:ab,ti) AND [english]/lim NOT ([animals]/lim NOT ([humans]/lim OR 'patient'/exp)) NOT 'case report'/de
Web of Science	(#4 NOT #5) AND Language=(English) Databases=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI Timespan=All years (#4 AND TS=("case report" OR "case reports" OR "report of a case")) AND Language=(English) looked at 7 refs = 0 relevant (#3) AND Language=(English) #1 AND #2 TS=("c reactive protein" OR CRP) TS=(tuberculosis)
Cochrane Library	tuberculosis:ti,ab,kw and "c reactive protein" or CRP:ti,ab,kw (Word variations have been searched)

**Supplementary Table 2. Characteristics of excluded studies among all studies where additional data was requested from the corresponding author to determine final eligibility<sup>a</sup>:**

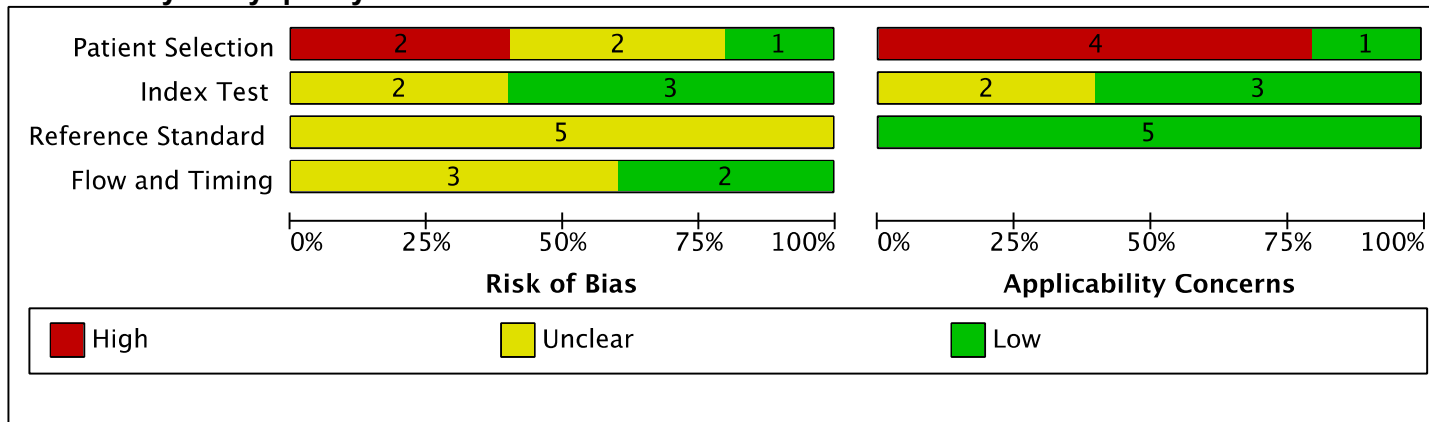
First author, year	Country	Reason for exclusion
<b>Pulmonary TB</b>		
Agranoff, 2006	Uganda, The Gambia	Did not provide accuracy data
Lee, 2012	South Korea	Did not provide accuracy data
Ratzinger, 2012	Austria	Reference standard not satisfied; additional data provided by the author did not limit TB diagnosis to culture-positive TB
Shi, 2013	China	Did not provide accuracy data
Tintinger, 2012	South Africa	Reference standard not satisfied; additional data provided by the author did not limit TB diagnosis to culture-positive TB

**Abbreviations:** TB (tuberculosis)

**Legend:** <sup>a</sup> All corresponding authors contacted via email.

**Supplementary Figure 1. Inpatient pulmonary tuberculosis study quality using the Quality Assessment of Diagnostic Studies (QUADAS-2) tool.**

**A. Summary study quality.**



**B. Individual study quality.**

	<u>Risk of Bias</u>				<u>Applicability Concerns</u>		
	Patient Selection	Index Test	Reference Standard	Flow and Timing	Patient Selection	Index Test	Reference Standard
Bandyopadhyay 2011 (India)	?	+	?	?	-	+	+
Cho 2012 (S. Korea)	-	?	?	?	-	?	+
Lee 2011 (S. Korea)	-	?	?	?	-	+	+
Sage 2010 (UK)	+	+	?	+	+	?	+
Wilson 2006 (S. Africa)	?	+	?	+	-	+	+

<b>- High</b>	<b>? Unclear</b>	<b>+ Low</b>
---------------	------------------	--------------

**Abbreviations:** S. Korea (South Korea); UK (United Kingdom).

**Supplementary Figure 2. Diagnostic accuracy of CRP for pulmonary tuberculosis among inpatients.**

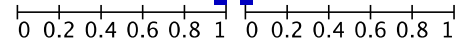
Study	TP	FP	FN	TN	Sensitivity (95% CI)	Specificity (95% CI)	Sensitivity (95% CI)	Specificity (95% CI)
Bandyopadhyay 2011 (India)	5	14	4	29	0.56 [0.21, 0.86]	0.67 [0.51, 0.81]		
Cho 2012 (S. Korea)	23	20	17	13	0.57 [0.41, 0.73]	0.39 [0.23, 0.58]		
Lee 2011 (S. Korea)	67	175	15	15	0.82 [0.72, 0.89]	0.08 [0.04, 0.13]		
Sage 2010 (UK)	25	171	3	48	0.89 [0.72, 0.98]	0.22 [0.17, 0.28]		
Wilson 2006 (S. Africa)	25	2	1	0	0.96 [0.80, 1.00]	0.00 [0.00, 0.84]		

**Abbreviations:** CRP (C-reactive protein)

**Legend:**

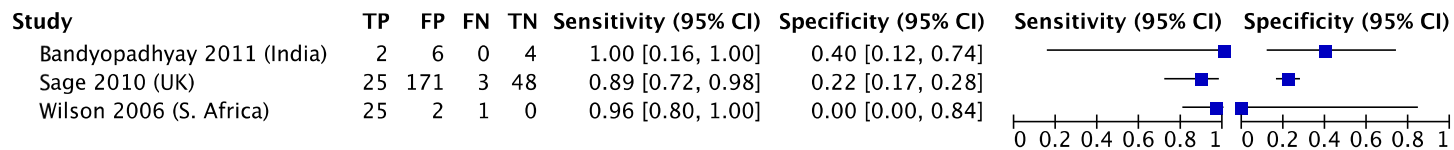
Pooled sensitivity: 78% (95% CI: 58-90); test for heterogeneity  $I^2 = 80\%$ ,  $p=0.001$

Pooled specificity: 21% (95% CI: 6-52); test for heterogeneity  $I^2 = 95\%$ ,  $p<0.0001$

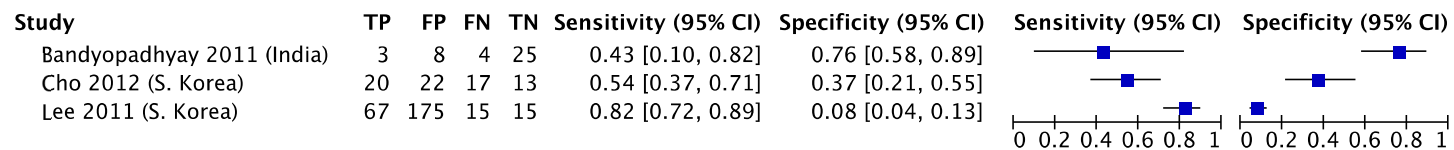


**Supplementary Figure 3. Diagnostic accuracy of CRP for pulmonary tuberculosis among inpatients stratified by HIV status.**

**A. HIV-infected inpatients**



**B. HIV-uninfected inpatients**



reactive protein)

Abbreviations: CRP (C-