**Table S1.** Databases and search terms of the search strategy

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| Databases/Internet Search | Search Terms |
| Pubmed | ("Costs and Cost Analysis"[Mesh] OR "$" OR "economics"[Subheading] OR cost[tiab] OR costs[tiab] OR pricing[tiab] OR price[tiab] OR expenditure[tiab] OR expenditures[tiab]) AND ("Tuberculosis"[Mesh] OR "Mycobacterium tuberculosis/isolation and purification"[Mesh] OR tuberculosis[tiab]) AND ("diagnosis" [Subheading] OR "Microscopy"[Mesh] OR "Culture Media"[Mesh] OR "Sputum"[Mesh] OR sputum[tiab] OR smear[tiab] OR culture[tiab] OR microscopy[tiab] OR diagnosis[tiab] OR diagnostic[tiab]) AND ("1995/01/01"[PDat] : "2012/12/31"[PDat]) |
| Embase | (‘tuberculosis’/exp OR ‘Mycobacterium tuberculosis’/exp OR ‘tuberculosis control’/exp) AND (‘bacterium examination’/exp OR ‘diagnosis’/exp OR ‘sputum examination’/exp OR ‘culture medium’/exp OR ‘culture technique’/exp OR ‘laboratory’/exp ) AND (‘economic aspect’/exp)  1995-2012, check medline |
| Web of Knowledge | TS=((cost\* or (economic and (evaluation or analysis))) AND (smear\* or culture or diagnosis or sputum or microscopy or laboratory) AND (tuberculosis or TB))  Databases=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, A&HCI Timespan=1995-2012  Lemmatization=On |
| Health Economic Evaluation Database (HEED) | (Tuberculosis or TB) as keywords AND (smear or culture or microscopy or laboratory or sputum or diagnosis) as keywords AND (cost or economic) as full text |
| NHS Economic Evaluation Database(NHSEED) <http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/crdweb/> | (tuberculosis or TB) AND (diagnosis or smear or culture) AND (cost) FROM 1995 TO 2012 |
| Cost-Effectiveness Analysis Registry(CEA) <https://research.tufts-nemc.org/cear4/default.aspx> | tuberculosis |
| REPEC <http://econpapers.repec.org/> | (tuberculosis or TB) and (smear or culture or diagnosis or microscopy or sputum or laboratory) |
| European Network of Health Economic Evaluation Database(EURONHEED) <http://infodoc.inserm.fr/euronheed/Publication.nsf> | tuberculosis |
| EconLit | tuberculosis AND (smear OR culture ) |
| CNKI(跨库检索)/Google Scholar | 肺结核 并且 (涂片或者培养 ) 并且（成本 或者 费用 或者经济) |
| WHO | Categories for TB publications : cost/cost-effectiveness , economic, diagnosis |
| Grey literature databases: OpenSIGLE, Healthcare Management Information Consortium (HMIC), National Technical Information Service (NTIS), Biological Abstracts(BIOSIS) | tuberculosis, tuberculosis and smear; tuberculosis and culture |