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EVALUATION OF AN OGAWA *MYCOBACTERIU* METHOD MODIFIED FOR HIGHER SENSITIVIT CONCENTRATED SAMPLES

[DAVID LUBASI](#)¹⁾, [CHARITY HABEENZU](#)¹⁾ and [SATO](#)

1) TB Laboratory, Department of Pathology and Microbiology, Uni
Hospital

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Abstract: Two egg-based culture media were evaluated for detect with Löwenstein-Jensen (L-J) as a gold standard. The conventional modified to improve laboratory diagnosis of tuberculosis in resource employing an inexpensive but sensitive and specific culture method. collected from pulmonary tuberculosis suspects who visited the ches Teaching Hospital in Zambia. These samples were processed using treating procedures (with or without sample concentration) and cult media for mycobacteria isolation. A total of 276 sputum samples w

pulmonary tuberculosis suspects. When the L-J result was used as a reference, the sensitivity of Ogawa and modified Ogawa was 81.7% and 90.3% respectively. The specificities of those methods were 96.7% and 92.3% respectively. Of 108 (32.6%) were smear positive and 108 (39.1%) were culture positive. The culture method was as follows: 93 (33.7%) in L-J, 98 (35.5%) in modified Ogawa and 29 (29.7%) in original Ogawa. The contamination rate was 1.1%, 5.1% and 1.1% in L-J, modified Ogawa and original Ogawa respectively. The Ogawa culturing method is simple and quick. Its low sensitivity was overcome by employing the concentrated samples, the sensitivity significantly improving from 81.7% to 90.3%. Ogawa method is a simple and quick method for TB laboratories with poor resources in developing countries.

Key words: [Ogawa](#), [culture](#), [tuberculosis](#), [developing country](#)

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