sputum smears for sputum-acquired Mycobacterium tuberculosis were obtained from patients. We included patients with at least one sputum smear positive for M. tuberculosis at entry into the study.

Results: Among the 90 patients included in the study, 57 were smear-positive for M. tuberculosis. The median CD4+ cell count was 250 cells/µL, and 43% of patients had a positive culture for M. tuberculosis. The median time from symptom onset to diagnosis was 6 months. The median duration of treatment was 12 months.

Conclusions: This study confirms that sputum-acquired M. tuberculosis is an important cause of smear-positive tuberculosis in the HIV-positive population. Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment are critical to prevent the spread of infection and reduce mortality. Further studies are needed to identify risk factors for sputum-acquired tuberculosis and to optimize treatment regimens.