8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Automated culture techniques which give the results in a shorter duration (for smear negative TB) could be used as a tool in diagnosis. Advanced molecular techniques which speciate and test for sensitivity, may be inculcated to get a better clinical picture of the patient.

The study period was limited to three years in a tertiary care set up. If this study can be carried out in a broad screening platform, regional surveillance of opportunistic infections, speciation and drug resistance pattern in and around Mysore, Karnataka will be known and an effective public health management and treatment strategy could be adopted.