Author's response to reviews

Title: Objective parallel-forms reliability assessment of body posture screening tests

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Sirs,

Thank you very much for reviewers' comments. We have introduced all proposed amendments point-by-point. I have paid particular attention to all your comments and have introduced all suggested changes.

Reviewer 1.

1. The title of the study was modified according with suggestions

“OBJECTIVE PARALLEL-FORMS RELIABILITY ASSESSMENT OF 3 DIMENTION REAL TIME BODY POSTURE SCREENING TESTS”

2. The abstract was modified according with suggestions

3. Introduction was changed and add references in relation to validity and the reliability of the Zebris system and the Saunders inclinometer.

“Zebris CMS 10 system demonstrate a high degree of test-retest reliability, intertester reliability, intratester reliability [14, 15]. Inclinometer method demonstrate a high degree of intertester reliability and intratester reliability[16, 17]. A variation of up to 1.5° was allowed using this technique. Measurements were repeated several times in each participant until two consecutive attempts by two independent examiners yielded the same angle values (including the admissible variation of 1.5°), thus complying with the principles of intertester and alternate-forms reliability”

4. The subjects was restructured. We add characteristics: gender, age, body height and body mass and we add the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

“The mean age 14.2 (± 0.6) years. The study group consisted of 138 participants, including 71 girls (mean age 14.1 ± 0.4 years, mean body height 160.3 ± 3.4 cm, mean body mass 64.8 ± 3.9 kg) and 67 boys (mean age 14.4 ± 0.8 years, mean body height 166.6 ± 2.9 cm, mean body mass 68.1 ± 3.6 kg). The exclusion
criteria were a diagnosis of scoliosis and/or status post spinal surgery and/or feeling any pain.

5. The procedure was restructured.

The respective reference peaceably with the the newest and very numerical investigations, ranges assumed for kyphosis and lordosis were 30-40° and 25-35°[18].

6. The statistical analysis section was changed follow suggestion

7. The result section was changed.

Reviewer 2.

1. The sentence which contains “Three specialists”, “Each patient was examined by all specialists” was changed.

“Screening test was carried out with the participants in a free standing position, involving specialists in rehabilitation as examiners and a Zebris CMS 10 system. The objective of the examination was not revealed to the examiners.”

2. The inter- and intra-observer error was added.

“Zebris CMS 10 system demonstrate a high degree of test-retest reliability, intertester reliability, intratester reliability [14, 15]. Inclinometer method demonstrate a high degree of intertester reliability and intratester reliability[16, 17]. A variation of up to 1.5° was allowed using this technique. Measurements were repeated several times in each participant until two consecutive attempts by two independent examiners yielded the same angle values (including the admissible variation of 1.5°), thus complying with the principles of intertester and alternate-forms reliability”

3. The respective reference for - ranges assumed for kyphosis and lordosis were 30-40° and 25-35° and the symmetry of position of the shoulder and pelvic girdles was evaluated in the frontal plane - was added.

“The respective reference peaceably with the the newest and very numerical investigations, ranges assumed for kyphosis and lordosis were 30-40° and 25-35°[18].”

Thank you once again for your valuable comments that contributed for improvement of our article.

Yours sincerely
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