Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2  Date: 20 April 2014

Reviewer: Pilar Sainz de Baranda

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Title
- The title of the study should be modified and include the methods used to assessment body posture and may be the parameters assessment: frontal plane and sagittal plane.

Abstract
- I suggest to modify “paper” and write “study”.
- I suggest to delete “Their parents had provided written consent for their children to participate in the study”

Introduction
I suggest to introduce any references in relation to validity and the reliability of the Zebris system and the Saunders inclinometer.

Is important to note the type of reliability analyzed

Method
- This section should be restructured in: Subjects, Raters, Procedure and statistical analysis.

Subjects
Is important show the characteristics of subjects (gender, age, body height and body mass) and the inclusion and exclusion criteria.

At the end of this paragraph....Permission to conduct this study was granted by....Their parents had provided written consent.....

Procedure
How did you assess the kyphosis and lordosis. What landmarks were used?

Why you use 30º-40º and 25º-35º like reference ranges for kyphosis and lordosis?. This point is very important because for example, some studies used for normal thoracic kyphosis ranges from 20º to 50º when assessed radiographically and nonradiographically. And if you change the ranges the results could be changed.
Statistical analysis.
Move “the statistical analysis was conducted…. on the statistical analysis section

Results
I don’t understand this assertion “Analysis of the sagittal plane parameters revealed that, in the group of boys, the Zebris CMS 10 system produced more detailed data for the assessment of kyphosis and lordosis”

Why don’t you show the results of sagital plane assessment with the inclinometer and the Zebris system? Mean a SD.

Discussion
It will be interesting to add “Limitation of study”

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests