Reviewer's report

Title: Redistribution of joint moments is associated with changed plantar pressure in diabetic polyneuropathy

Version: 2 Date: 6 March 2008

Reviewer: Claudia Giacomozzi

Reviewer's report:

The authors submitted a revised version of their manuscript and a list of comments to address all major, minor and discretionary revisions suggested by this reviewer.

As for major compulsory revisions:
Point 1 has been satisfactorily answered.
Point 2 has been answered and some references have been added to support their hypothesis, but this reviewer still disagrees with the authors' comment. Anyway, the authors have partially pointed out in their manuscript the limitations of the measurement instrumentation.
Point 3 has been answered and discussed in the manuscript, but this reviewer still disagrees with the authors' comment.

As for minor revisions: all points have been satisfactorily addressed.

As for discretionary revisions:
Point 7 and 8 have been satisfactorily addressed.
Point 9 has been addressed but this reviewer strongly disagrees.

The revised text contains a critical point which deserves further explanation: a Table has been added - Table 2 - where statistical p values are reported which are doubtful, and which are not clearly identified: in verifying the results of the statistical test applied, it came out that some p values are related to HC and DPN group, while others to DC and DPN. A clear explanation should also be reported about the meaning of statistically significant differences between DC and DPN instead of between DPN, which is the group under study, and healthy matched controls.

Again in the text:
page 15: the sentence "...resulting in a forward shift of plantar pressure pattern" is not clear and deserves some explanation.

Here and there in the text there are some typing mistakes which may sometimes alter the meaning of the sentences (example: page 15 ".. are associated too a distribution..", where "too" must obviously be replaced by "to").

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interest