Reviewer's report

Title: Sitting and standing in a total population of children with cerebral palsy.

Version: 2 Date: 18 November 2009

Reviewer: Sam Pierce

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Major compulsory revisions:

Introduction:
1) The Introduction does not clearly lead to the purpose of the study. For example, you never mention the GMFCS until the purpose statement so that it is unclear why you want to relate your data to the GMFCS. This is important especially since the GMFCS includes assessment of sitting/standing (depending on age) so that I would expect a relationship between the two. Also, what is the literature with regard to CP subtype that is relevant for your study?

Methods:
1) How was GMFCS score/standing/sitting determined? Did the PT observe the child perform tasks or ask the caregiver? Who did the CP subtype classification?
2) You need to define baby chair and adaptive seating.
3) I don't agree that the type of chair is on an ordinal scale since it is categorical data. Is a baby chair better than adaptive seating on your scale? Then, you report analyzing your data using a Chi square which is for nominal data. You need to be clear with your analysis.
4) For your ANOVA's, you don't describe or report the post hoc tests so you cannot say where the differences were in your results.

Results:
1) Table 1 should be summarized in text since the table itself is visually difficult to follow.
2) Without clarifying the statistical analysis, I can't really interpret the results.
3) The figures in general are repeated in the text & not especially helpful while being difficult to visually follow.

Discussion:
1) Throughout the Discussion, data was reported which belongs in the Results section. Only interpretation should be in the Discussion section.
2) Throughout the Discussion, only focus on your data and its relation to the literature and don't discuss the value of the CPUP in general.

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 interests'