Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 29 March 2010

Reviewer: Terry Pountney

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Is the question posed by the authors well defined? The question is how does sitting and standing abilities correlate with the GMFCS. They have used the term survey but in other parts of the text they use study. The terms used need to be clear and consistent and identify whether it is audit, survey or study.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?

The methods are appropriate and well described. The results are well reported but it is not clear exactly what the assistive technology equipment is e.g. standing devices, bracing and frames

3. Are the data sound?

The data is derived from the CPUP which has a sound population from which to collect and analyse data.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? I’m not sure that I can answer this

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? There are no great surprises in this study as it is recognised that children at lower levels of GMFCS will need more adaptive seating and standing to enable them to function and participate. The data may be useful in future planning

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? No limitations noted but there are some limitations in the consistency of equipment use across this large population.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?

Yes

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes

9. Is the writing acceptable?

There are number of grammatical errors particularly in the past tense e.g. used to stand instead of stand.

The figures need to be presented in a different format to make it easier for the reader to understand. Also there are probably too many figures.