Reviewer’s report

Title: Prediction of grip and key pinch strength in 978 healthy subjects.

Version: 1 Date: 24 January 2010

Reviewer: Joy C Macdermid

Reviewer’s report:

This is an excellent paper and important contribution as grip strength is a key health indicator and a data-based process for establishing a normative comparison score is fundamental. The sample size is the large.

My minor suggestions are

1. Clarify whether sampling was convenience i.e. based on being at the locations data collection stations were established or random based on contacting a randomly selected subset of the population; I assume the former so not a true random sample. Given the large size the data is likely a good comparator but represent the population who are mobile in the community.

2. Was regression stepwise? Did the order variables were entered affect the partial correlations. Was height entered before sex or weight and hence showed a stronger relationship- not clear from methods.

3. Please clarify if/when the Jamar was calibrated before and doing study??

4. Speak to body being reflected in height, weight and by some in terms of hand size1. Did you consider BMI as a variable?

5. Please consider making an easily accessible table (and/or downloadable excel file) so that people can easily implement your work into practice and calculate norms for their patients.

Reference List


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests