Reviewer’s report

Title: Inter- and intra-observer reliability of clinical movement-control tests for marines

Version: 1 Date: 3 June 2012

Reviewer: Harald Ekedahl

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript has the potential to improve clinical practice through analysis of reliability and validity of these tests. However, there are some major points to be addressed in this manuscript.

Major points:
- The rationale of studying a cohort of marines
- The validity analysis and the dependent variables in this analysis
- Can the validity be supported although reliability is not supported
- The recommendations for clinical practice and future research

Minor points
- The subject group is not adequately described regarding low back pain, disability and radicular pain.
- The method needs clarification
- Strength and limitation need to be discussed further

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