Reviewer's report

Title: Head Eye Movement Control Tests in Patients with Chronic Neck Pain Inter-observer Reliability and Discriminative Validity

Version: 2 Date: 23 August 2013

Reviewer: Kenneth Jay Andersen

Reviewer's report:

MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS REQUESTED

General comments:
The question posed by the authors is interesting and relevant. The writing is considered acceptable however the “discussion” needs to be re-written as there are broken sentences and confusing punctuation. Furthermore, and most importantly, the discussion needs to be in relation to other inter-tester reliability articles and knowledge, and the information about the participants and recruitment (inclusion and exclusion criteria) should be in the methods section and not the discussion. Please rewrite the discussion.

Specific comments:
1. How was the participant allocation done? Please describe briefly the randomization process, if any?
2. Were all the participants recruited simultaneously or were the controls recruited later? If so, please describe and justify.
3. How much time between each test where allowed for resting?
4. With a standardized test-order how did you avoid accumulation of fatigue? And what could be the potential problem with not having randomized the test order?
5. What about sleep and hydration level- did you control for it? – could that possibly affect oculomotor function?
6. Did you register your trial at clinicaltrials.gov?
7. Please specify that your study conforms to the Declaration of Helsinki
8. Hypothesis should be stated at the end of the introduction and not in the methods section.
9. Hypothesis does not state anything about the inter-tester reliability – what do you expect?
10. How does lighting affect vision and oculomotor function? and did you standardize the experimental setup so an equal amount of light is on the participants´ left and right side?
11. Please include a brief description of the tests in the manuscript. There should be no appendix.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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