Reviewer's report

Title: Reliability and validity of the Finnish version of the American Shoulder and Elbow Surgeons Standardized Shoulder Assessment Form, Patient self-report section

Version: 3  Date: 30 April 2014

Reviewer: Joy C MacDermid

Reviewer's report:

Strengths
- Followed standard translation process
- Well written
- Adequate sample size
- Excellent statistical analyses
- ASES common measure in shoulder research and practice
- Provide open access to translated version

Areas for improvement - required revisions
- Be clearer about what hypothesis were being tested or expected relationships to show results were consistent with expectations
- Be clearer if any conceptual conflicts or semantic issues arose in translation
- There are some results in discussion please move to results; e.g. items changed etc
- The discussion would be enhanced by summary table that compared measurement properties in this study to previous studies of ASES and then discussion of the trends in the table rather than line by line citing of different studies.
- The discussion of the factor analysis is incomplete-saying it confirmed item analysis not clear or sufficient
- Discussion of possible why correlations - SST more related to function than pain – is that shown by others...
- Inconsistent number of decimal points in tables
- Suggest text boxes to indicate brief name of item rather than number pain, hair, throw in item difficulty map

- Why did you not show factor item loadings in a table

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' below