Reviewer’s report

Title: Intraobserver and interobserver reliability of measures of cervical segmental angulation

Version: 1 Date: 4 April 2014

Reviewer: John Street

Reviewer’s report:

Overall, this is a clinically relevant question. The aims are well defined. The introduction / purpose is clear and the study methodology is appropriate to answer the defined questions.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. The authors should provide information on the accuracy and precision of the software method for measurement. Comparisons of inter and intra observer reliability should be made against the context of knowing the accuracy and precision of the method.

2. The population of subjects had more C4/5 and less C5/6 cases. This is a little unexpected, given that C5/6 is the commonest level involved. A comment regarding this in the discussion would be helpful to dispel and criticism.

3. While %’s are provided for reliability comparisons etc in the results, it would be helpful if the authors included the results of the 'absolute' measurements of angular and distance. These absolute differences should be discussed in the context of software accuracy and precision and against the definitions of instability.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no conflicts