Author's response to reviews

Title: Test-retest reliability of temporal and spatial gait characteristics measured with an instrumented walkway system (GAITRite)

Authors:

Mr Caro J.T. van Uden (c.vanuden@fysioth.umcn.nl)
Marcus P. Besser (marcus.besser@jefferson.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 10 May 2004

Dear dr. Hodgkinson,

Thank you very much for accepting our manuscript for publication in your journal BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders. Below you will find a point-by-point description of the changes we have made based on your e-mail of May 6, 2004.

Title: we have included 'Gaitrite' in the title.
Affiliations: have been changed according to your directions.
Abstract: changed 'objective' to 'background', and changed 'discussion and conclusion' to 'conclusions'.
Renamed introduction to 'background'.
Background, line 9. reference has been included
Page 4, line 7. reference has been included
Page 6, line 9. "a" before "appropriateness" has been deleted.

Page 10, acknowledgements. I am not very familiar with presenting the titles of people in the text, but the two persons that are acknowledged (John Noone and Amy Swing) are both physiotherapists (PT) and have their Master's degree (MS). Please let me know if the current description of their titles needs to be changed.

References. We choose not to reference this article because the scope of the article is whether the GAITRite can be used to discriminate between gait of Parkinson's patients and gait of healthy controls, and not on validity of the system itself. Therefore, it does not fit in the list of validity studies that investigated concurrent or criteria validity of the GAITRite. Hopefully you agree with us.

Table 1. The orientation of the table has been changed to 'portrait'.

With kind regards,

Caro van Uden
Researcher
Department of Physical Therapy
University Medical Center Nijmegen
E-mail: C.vanUden@fysioth.umcn.nl