Reviewer's report

Title: Obesity and pronated foot type may increase the risk of chronic plantar heel pain: a matched case-control study

Version: 3 Date: 27 February 2007

Reviewer: Wendy Gillear

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. The authors use the fact that BMI remained significantly associated with CPHP using logistic regression as a argument for the use of the term "association". While this example is correct the same does not follow for foot pronation. I am happy to defer to the editor re the use of the term "association". However the issue would also be solved by the inclusion of a clear statement of further research being required to investigate the effects of increasing BMI and increasingly pronated foot posture. A reader will then be quite aware of the how the term "association" is being used and the inference of relationship is negated.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Spelling mistake in legend of Figure 2. "sting" should be "string"

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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 declare that I have no competing interests'