Reviewer's report

Title: Movement control tests of the low back; evaluation of the difference between patients with back pain and healthy controls

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Reviewer: Lieven Danneels

Reviewer's report:

I want to congratulate the authors with their valuable and clinical relevant paper. Last decade a lot research has been done in the field of disfunctional movement patterns, but often the clinical link is missing. This manuscript illustrates that using a clinical test battery a clinician is able to distinguish LBP patients from healthy controls.

I have some minor remarks:

p2: abstract - conclusions: abbreviations not clear
p 3 - para 2 : use LBP instead of low back pain
p. 7 : it seems unusual to the reviewer to split up the discussion session with terms as "Key findings - limitations of the study - other studies..."
p. 8 - para 3: " at present, no such methodology is available" : it this true ??
p . 8 : the blinded assessment is a critical issue. The reviewer doesn't understand why this was not done, "because of the unavailability of financial resources" ?? Also in the current setting all subjects are evaluated, so I don't see the point...

The authors also mention the problem of "the patient anamnesis". In my opinion this problem could have been solved with respect to the blinded assessment.

p.9: it would be interesting to have an idea about the influence of pain and the amount of pain on the disfunctional movement pattern...
- correlation between the amount of pain and the scores ?
- correlation between the duration of LBP and the scores ?
...

p.10 - para 2 : the content of this para is a repetition. Please obmit or integrate into earlier parts of the text

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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'