Author's response to reviews

Title: Agreement between a self-administered questionnaire on musculoskeletal disorders of the neck-shoulder region and a physical examination

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March 13, 2008

Dr. Deborah Saltman
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Object: Submission of a final revised manuscript to BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders (1605808436128597)

Dear Dr. Saltman,

Enclosed is a final revised version of the manuscript titled “Agreement between a self-administered questionnaire on musculoskeletal disorders of the neck-shoulder region and a physical evaluation” we submit for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders, as recently requested by your editorial office. This paper reports the results of an original study conducted among video display unit (VDU) users that suggest that the agreement between self-reported symptoms and a physical examination of the neck-shoulder region is only fair to good, and is affected by the consideration of pain and the time lag between evaluations. We believe this topic is highly pertinent to the readers of BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders because of the burden of conducting individual physical evaluations in large study populations and the consequent frequent use of questionnaires to measure the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders.
As requested, we have removed the line numbers, highlighting, key words, running head and the word count, modified the layout of the tables, made the minor essential revisions suggested by referee #2 and proofread the final manuscript. We hope you will find everything to your satisfaction.

This manuscript reports original work that has not been published nor submitted for publication in other journals.

Thank you for your attention on this submission.

Sincerely,

Clermont E. Dionne
Corresponding author