Reviewer's report

Title: Decreased levels of physical activity in adolescents with Down syndrome are related with low bone mineral density: a cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 4 March 2013

Reviewer: Neil R. Nokes

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Discretionary Revisions
I cite only the sentence of section because the paragraphs were indistinguishable.

Background
The sentence, "Persons with DS count on several barriers to participate in daily PA like transportation restrictions, low motivation and lack of integrated program options [20]." is confusing. The phrase "count on" connotes relying on something or trusting something.

It may read better if the term "physician" is used instead of "doctor" in this sentence, "Pubertal development was determined by a sport medicine doctor with direct observation according to the five stages proposed by Tanner and Whitehouse [32]."

Statistical analysis
I would recommend renaming the Tertiles of total PA as lowPA, medPA, and highPA instead of fewPA (min < 755), medPA (795 #min > 755), and lotPA (min > 795).

Discussion
The following statement is confusing. "Any of the adolescents with DS in the current study met PA recommendations of at least 60 min of daily MVPA, which is in agreement with some previous research [21, 27],..." I understood that none of the adolescents with DS met PA recommendations of at least 60 min of daily MVPA.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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