Reviewer’s report

**Title**: Spanish validation of Bad Sobernheim Stress Questionnaire (BSSQ.es) for adolescents with braces

**Version**: 1 **Date**: 9 January 2010

**Reviewer**: Stefano Negrini

**Reviewer’s report:**

I would like to compliment the authors for the paper, that is on an important topic for future developments in scoliosis research and clinics. Nevertheless there are some point that need their attention

Major compulsory revisions

1. The first section of results in reality is the description of the population and should be transposed in the M&M section, from "The sample..." to "...(SD 21) on average."

2. The Statistical description in the M&M is not given, while tests used are reported in the Results Section. I think the opposite should be done, describing properly the test used and for what at the end of the M&M section.

3. Consequently, results should be re-written and report discorsively what has been observed, inserting numbers and statistical significance, but not tests used.

4. Thinking of the average readers of the journal, that is a clinician, I suggest the authors to explain clearly which tests are used, for what and why: not all readers understand what criterion validity is, or what the principal components give, and this do not allow to completely understand the discussion

5. The main point in the discussion, at least to me, is the lack of at least one component in this scale; do the authors think that only this component is lacking? Do they think that the scale should be reconsidered to have a better one in the future? Do they think that perhaps the Greek questionnaire could have considered this component lacking (I understand this could require a research, but the point should be addressed). All these points should be considered in the discussion, and should be inserted in the abstract as well, since is not enough just to say that the scale is valid in Spanish, when the scale itself lacks something important...

6. A comparison with the SRS-22 has not been done really. I propose the authors to look at the papers on the SRS and see which components were presente in the SRS-22, and why the BSSW should be better or not should be a little discussed, since they compared the two scales.

**Level of interest**: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests