Reviewer's report

Title: "Brace technology" thematic series - The Sforzesco and Sibilla braces, and the SPoRT (Symmetric, Patient oriented, Rigid, Three-dimensional, active) concept

Version: 2 Date: 1 February 2011

Reviewer: M S Wong

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

General Comments
• Comprehensive description of the braces - Sforzesco and Sibilla braces, and the conception of SPoRT are provided.
• It is suggested to use consistent wording for instance, either “Coronal plane” or “Frontal plane” but not both are used in the manuscript.
• It would be beneficial to conduct RCT studies for the captioned braces in order to further support the effectiveness of the captioned braces with clinical evidence.

Specific Comments
• There are some typos and spelling mistakes found in the text – page 3 (line 13 & 17), page 6 (line 12).
• Page 13, English should be used in Figure 12.
• Page 13, the section, “The slopes”, more explanation of the word “apex” would be helpful.
• Page 24-25, the section, “Protocols and everyday usage”, apart from “less rigid” or “more rigid”, there is no detailed description of the rationale of prescribing different orthotic designs.
• Page 29-31, the section, “Results and case reports” is repeated.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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