Reviewer’s report

Title: Standardization of examination posture used for spinal curvature assessment by means of the DTP-3

Version: 1 Date: 12 December 2011

Reviewer: Patrick Knott

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions: The writing style is good, but there are still a few typos and grammatical errors. These are minor, but should be fixed before publication.

Discretionary Revisions: The question posed by these authors is well defined, but still very technical. It would draw a wider audience if the question were stated more broadly and practically: Does putting a patient in a mechanical frame change their posture? If it does, then frames should not be used in measuring posture. If it does not, then the frame can be used and may be very helpful in reducing sway and increasing reproducibility.

The methods are sound and well described. Good detail is provided.

The data that has been collected is also sound, and the evaluation of it is well done. The statistical analysis is acceptable.

The discussion and conclusions are reasonable, but not practical enough. More could be described regarding how this device could be used in clinical practice. Is it efficient, cost effective, safe, and does it provide clinically useful data to the physician?

The title and abstract could be improved in this way also.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no conflicts of interest.