Reviewer’s report

Title: The reliability of plantar pressure assessment during barefoot level walking in children aged 7-11 years

Version: 1 Date: 8 November 2011

Reviewer: Angela Margaret Evans

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The reliability of plantar pressure assessment during barefoot level walking in children aged 7-11 years

Reviewer report - A. Evans

Thank you for inviting me to review this manuscript. My comments will proceed in the order of the manuscript draft, and then a summary shall complete my review.

Page 5 last line, last word: please correct ‘where’ to ‘were’

Page 6 para 2, sent 1: suggest rewording to read “population may be invalid”

Para 3, sent 1: spelling error – please correct to ‘plantar’ pressure..

Para 3, sent 2: please correct punctuation to clarify this sentence ie commas after ‘approach,’ and again after ‘measures,’ – to correct phrasing

Page 8 para 2, 2nd last sentence: suggest that you comment regarding the left, non- dominant foot ie how may results be different within the one subject and what implications this may have (as every child has a left and a right foot..)

Para 3, last sentence: please comment on the reliability of masking versus the one examiner performing the masking (given the topic of this paper, this is pertinent).

Page 11 Para 1, sent 1: please delete Table 1 as it’s content is stated as text (add BMI within text), and hence re-number the remaining Tables.

Page 15 Para 3, sent 2: please comment further re the Alvarez study not considering lesser toe pressures (ie limitations?, functional presumption of toes?)

Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

NIL

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

ALL LISTED

Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)

NIL
Summary
Thank you once again for the opportunity to review this paper. I congratulate the authors, as this is a small but useful study in the area of paediatric foot and gait research. With the above listed amendments, I recommend this paper proceed to publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests in reviewing this manuscript