Reviewer's report

Title: The association between functional movement and overweight and obesity in British primary school children

Version: 1 Date: 11 August 2012

Reviewer number: 3

Reviewer's report:

This study examines the relationship between functional movement patterns and overweight status in a sample of British primary children. Overall this paper is well written and properly structured. Below please find some queries/comments that require your possible attention and consideration:

1. Participants (p.5) – 86% of the participants were Caucasian. It would be helpful to provide the ethnicity information on the remaining 14% of participants.
2. Anthropometry (P.6) – how body weight and body height were measured, say using a standard protocol. Who performed these measurements?
3. More justification for using individual FMS scores (scores 1 to 3) instead of total composite score should be provided. It is unclear to the reader why individual scores were used for data analysis.
4. Some discussion may require references to support (e.g., P.10, lines 2-6). In particular, the variable of physical activity was not included in the study and the conjecture would need further research investigation.
5. Some factors might be confounders (e.g., habitual physical activity, socio-economic status) and they might be acknowledged as limitations?
6. Some typos are noted – e.g., p.9 line 11, data HAVE; p.13 line7 SEVERE.

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.