Reviewer’s report

Title: The Fracture Predictive Ability of a Musculoskeletal Composite Score in Old Men – Data from the MrOs Sweden Study

Version: 0 Date: 28 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Trine Elisabeth Finnes

Reviewer’s report:

General comment:

Felix Cronholm et al. present in this paper a study aiming to investigate the association between defined musculoskeletal traits and fractures in 3000 elderly home dwelling men included in the MrOs study. Further the association between physical activity (PA) and fractures and between PA and musculoskeletal traits was investigated. The language is in general good, the paper is well structured, and the references are relevant. The methods are clearly described, the tables easy to read, and the discussion is balanced and addresses relevant findings. No power analysis was done regarding the current aim, however, the data were already collected, and the cohort is large. The paper is of interest for both researchers and clinicians.

Minor comment:

The use of the word "predictive value" may lead the reader to expect a predictive value to be estimated and reported. However, no positive predictive value is reported. The authors could consider changing the expression into "association", were relevant. (heading, line 29, page 8)

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?

Yes
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal.