Author’s response to reviews

Title: Comparison of mechanical work and metabolic energy consumption during gait throughout pregnancy

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Ms. Boodhun,

Please find enclosed the original article entitled “Comparison of mechanical work and metabolic energy consumption during gait throughout pregnancy”. Each of the authors has read and concurs with the content in the final manuscript. The material within has not been and will not be submitted for publication elsewhere except as an abstract.

This is one of several research articles resulting from a conceptually larger interdisciplinary project Habitual Activity Patterns during Pregnancy (HAPPY)-study, with an overarching aim of investigating health and wellness of pregnant women in South Africa. With energy expenditure one of the key research areas of pregnancy, the results of this study demonstrate that common measures of mechanical work, may be used during pregnancy, to evaluate changes in energy expenditure. These findings may be used in gait research during pregnancy, or in practical applications such as evaluating the changes in energy expenditure as a result of various musculoskeletal changes occurring during pregnancy. Given that the manuscript addresses pregnancy-specific outcomes, we find BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth the most appropriate and relevant source for publication of these findings.

Sincerely,

Zarko Krkeljas