Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Prognostic Factors for Recovery Following Acute Lateral Ankle Ligament Sprain: A Systematic Review

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 18 Jun 2017

**Reviewer:** Elizabeth Nightingale

**Reviewer's report:**

Page 18, last paragraph: Please ensure that it is clear that there is only 1 study looking at the medium term and check references. They don't seem to match, which may be why there is no athletic level in the table mentioned.

Page 23, first paragraph: You group MRI and clinical symptoms together as severity measures but previous research has found little correlation between clinical and radiological findings so do you think this is a good grouping? However, I would expect functional and clinical measures to match better?

Clinical Implications: Please delete or edit point 3. If the outcome is recovery from ankle sprain then re-sprain as a prognostic factor is a little confusing.

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

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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