Author’s response to reviews

Title: Detecting Functional Change in Response to Exercise in Knee Osteoarthritis: A Comparison of Two Computerized Adaptive Tests

Authors:

Feng-Hang Chang (fhchang@tmu.edu.tw)
Alan Jette (ajette@bu.edu)
Mary Slavin (mslavin@bu.edu)
Kristin Baker (krbaker@bu.edu)
Pengsheng Ni (psni@bu.edu)
Julie Keysor (JKEYSOR@MGHIHP.edu)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders Editorial Review Board,

We are delighted our manuscript, “Detecting Functional Change in Response to Exercise in Knee Osteoarthritis: A Comparison of Two Computerized Adaptive Tests” (BMSD-D-17-00477R1)” has conditional acceptance and will be published in your journal. Below are our responses to the recent inquiries emailed to us on 12/28/2017.

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1. We have noticed that the email address for the corresponding author in the manuscript differs from the email address provided in the submission system. Please ensure all email addresses provided in the manuscript and the submission system match.

Dr. Keysor changed institutions between December and January. Her new institution address (JKEYSOR@MGHIHP.edu; MGH Institute of Health Professions, Physical Therapy Department) is her current institution and is now in the paper and in author information part of the system.

2. In the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of the Declarations, please clarify whether you obtained ethics approval from the Boston University’s Institutional Review Board for this study.
Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure.

Under the declaration section, we clarified these requests with the following sentence: “Boston University’s Institutional Review Board approved this study. Informed written consent was obtained from all study participants.”

3. Please note that Figures should be provided as separate files, and each figure of a manuscript should be submitted as a single file. Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. If titles/legends are present within the figure files, please remove them. Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.

Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the text. Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication.

The figures in the previous manuscript are removed and are uploaded in separate files as instructed. It wasn't note that tables should be handled in the same manner so we left them as part of the paper at this point.

4. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Thank you. We uploaded a clean file copy.

If there are any additional clarifications or concerns please contact me at JKEYSOR@MGHIHP.edu. Thank you,

Sincerely,

Julie Keysor