Reviewer’s report

Title: Relationship between lower-extremity defects and body mass among Polish children: A cross-sectional study.

Version: 2 Date: 24 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Angela Evans

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for your substantial amendments and revisions; overall the manuscript is much improved.

I would like more clarification of methods please - especially the valgus heel assessment, I suggest a picture please.

I also request more critique of methods - however much this is common practice in Poland, the lack of demonstrable measure validity needs to be very clear.

Further, the intentions to include well examined measures (eg FPI-6) in the future should be stated.

The assessment of knee valgus in stance only, needs critique - foot posture may influence, and non-weight-bearing knee valgus would be helpful comparison.

What is being measured re knee valgus in children with increased BMI - thigh adipose?, foot posture? - both need consideration as limitations.

Further, comment regarding expected knee valgus/age group is required.

Page 11, line 22: please add this further and recent supporting reference for non-association of flatfoot and increased BMI in children:


Please critique the current methods of the school screenings. Is this worth doing if not demonstrably comparable across time points and examiners?

What suggestions would you make for future screenings?

What is the point of screenings for children's lower limb issue; why not wait until a definite problem?
** Justify the need for this screening** - continue / modify / stop? Please discuss, with respect to normative comparisons; clinical significance.


You have really improved this paper, but please add further to your argument for screening - yes/no - and why?

How would you improve the current methods - be very specific, and reasoned please.

Great work!

I look forward to the next draft.

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

No

**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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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