Reviewer's report

Title: Passive ankle movement increases cerebral blood oxygenation in the elderly: an experimental study

Version: 1 Date: 27 September 2014

Reviewer: Yoshifumi Miyazaki

Reviewer's report:

The study is scientifically and clinically sound and makes a significant contribution to this field.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1) Line 119: Which one did you analyze using NIRS: the left or right forehead? Please clarify. It is necessary to mention why you selected the left or right side.
2) Line 146: In figure 1-3, show the average and the error bar (SD or SE).
3) In the oxyHb data of figure 4, the value of “before” seems to be different. Please provide an appropriate explanation.

Discretionary Revisions:
1) Line 104: If you have measured the luminance, provide the lx data.
2) To facilitate reading comprehension, cite the figure in the experimental procedures.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.