Reviewer's report

Title: SEAS (Scientific Exercises Approach to Scoliosis): a modern neurophysiological evidence based approach to exercises for idiopathic scoliosis

Version: 3 Date: 6 February 2014

Reviewer: Marian H. Wade

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: 1) This paper does not rise to the level that one would expect to find in a scientific journal. It is long winded, poorly written and self congratulatory, and does not elucidate important points that would be of interest to the field. As a scoliosis practitioner, I am interested in reading about the scientific evidence that the authors claim indicates better outcomes in patients who practiced the SEAS method over other exercise methods. Unfortunately, I am not afforded the opportunity to assess these findings myself, because no details are provided regarding the studies and their methodologies. (Neither can I look up the research articles mentioned, because the references were not included in the submission I received.) 2) The lowered brace prescription rate mentioned in the beginning of the article is worrisome without information regarding the criteria under which the decision whether or not to brace was executed. 3) The authors fail to highlight what appears to me to be the most important difference between their method and others; namely, the specific attention given to the patient's practice of holding the autocorrection while performing activities of daily living. This would appear to follow in the tradition of motor learning principles being applied in the service of health-promoting behaviors in everyday life, for which there is a rich scientific publication history. 4) A native English speaking editor should be employed to help rework this manuscript to make it much more concise and centered around the important concepts listed above.

Minor Essential Revisions: Too numerous to list here, and should be taken care of by a professional scientific English speaking editor.

Discretionary Revisions: I would take out any reference to the prestigiousness of the centers with which the authors collaborated. The popularity of a center, as measured by how many people travel from abroad, does not rise to a level of merit worthy of a scientific publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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.