**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Appraisal of the DIERS Method for Calculating Postural Measurements: An Observational Study

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 27 Dec 2016

**Reviewer:** Jean Claude De Mauroy

**Reviewer's report:**

The surface topography involves inaccuracies related to the relative immobility of the patient during the examination and especially to the breathing. In nearly half of cases, the identification of sacral dimples and C7 spinous need to be corrected manually. For reasons of data size, the formetric system selects one image out of 12 according to predefined algorithms, but without providing the margin of error. It is therefore interesting to compare for each of the 40 parameters the selected image with the true average of the 12 images.

Statistical analysis must be completed.

As each of the 30 participants were scanned 6 times consecutively before moving from the platform and thirty scans were completed for each participant over 5 days, what is the test-retest reproducibility?

Inter-method Reliability must be specified by internal consistency between DRV and SAV and between Mannequin and Human.

Some references could be added, for instance:

Evaluation of the reproducibility of the formetric 4D measurements for scoliosis

Patrick Knott, Steven Mardjetko, Michelle Rollet, Scott Baute, Magdelina Riemenschneider and Laura Muncie

Scoliosis 2010 5(Suppl 1):O10

Are there any significant differences depending on gender, skin color, age ...?

DIERS is not an acronym but a family name, it should be written in lower case Diers.
Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal