Reviewer’s report

Title: Non-Structural Misalignments of Body Posture in the Sagittal Plane

Version: 0 Date: 24 Oct 2017

Reviewer: M S Wong

Reviewer's report:

Reviewer's Comments -

It is a good attempt to review papers in the topic area and put forward authors' own experience in defining different postural issues in the sagittal plane. The following are suggestions for improvement of the manuscript.

General Comment:

1. Some grammatical mistakes were found.

2. A more scientific method (kinetic, kinematic & EMG analysis) should be considered to define and differentiate various deviated postures in the sagittal plane.

3. A prospective study is deserved to be conducted to track the relevant changes after the introduction of individualized exercise programme.

Specific Comments:

Abstract

1. P3, lines 54-55: Are there any solid evidences to prove that poor posture (non-structural) will disturb musculoskeletal system or muscular function?

Introduction

1. P3, line 63: It is suggested to clarify the normal body posture and the posture (upright, sitting or lying position, etc.) will be introduced in "Human body posture" part.

2. P4, line 79: How to differentiate "incorrect" from "faulty" in this review?
3  P4, lines 83-88: Any references for the statement?

4  P4, lines 90-91: Does the head position also represent the sagittal plane alignment?

5  P5, line 99: It is suggested to mark the key anatomic landmarks in Fig.1.

6  P5, line 105: This part does not clarify/define and differentiate non-structural from structural misalignments.

7  P6, line 119: Detailed explanations are needed for Fig. 2 and 3 as well as for other figures.

8  P6, line 133: It is suggested to use the unified parameters (body parts) to describe the position of each posture in a quantitative manner.

9  P7, line 147: References should be provided.

10 P10, lines 213 & 216: How to define the "head line" and "base line"?

11 P10, line 220: How to define the "slightly" in Table 1?

12 P10 lines 225-226: Any references?

13 P11, line 247: How to interpret the symbol "+" in table?

Discussion

1  P21, lines 391-394: According to Bergmark and Richardson, muscle hyperactivity manifests as reduced flexibility, which means muscle shortening in clinical examination. In this boy case, his hamstrings should be shortened with hyperactivity, so it may not be incorrect to perform muscle shortening exercise.

Conclusion

1. P23, lines 430-432: How to reach No. 4 conclusion?

Level of interest

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An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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