Reviewer's report

Title: "Tweaking" the IOR foot protocol to improve the diagnosis of pes-planus: application to the kinematics of feet in a 13 years old population

Version: 3  Date: 21 October 2014

Reviewer: Ryan Mahaffey

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Minor Essential Revisions
1. The word “tweaking” may not be appropriate for the title of this manuscript because tweaking already refers to improvements without the need for “improve” in the title. In the introduction the author’s state the aim is to apply a modified IORfoot protocol…Therefore, “Modifying the IOR foot protocol to improve…” would be better suited.

2. The authors have clarified the use of the Moreau and Costa-Berti angle in their cover letter, but the methods section would benefit from their description of the MLA angle as “a compromise between the clinical MCB angle and calcaneal pitch”. This would inform the reader that the IOR MLA does not strictly adhere to a clinical measure but “is applied as much as possible with the marker set”.

3. The references in the method section still appear out of sync. Second paragraph…”a joint coordinate system [23]...” should probably refer to reference [20]. Also second paragraph…”as in the original model [9]...” should probably refer to reference [10]. These need to be checked and corrected.

4. A reference (if possible) is required in paragraph four of discussion, sentence starting…” In-vitro experiments performed by the same authors…”

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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