Reviewer's report

Title: Correlates of functional ankle instability in children and adolescents with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease

Version: 1 Date: 12 August 2015

Reviewer: Stewart C Morrison

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to re-review the manuscript submitted by Rose et al titled “Correlates of functional ankle instability in children and adolescents with Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease”. This was an interesting manuscript, it was well-written and incorporated a number of changes requested following the initial submission. The question posed by the authors is certainly of interest and the findings from the work have the potential to inform our clinical understanding of ankle instability in Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease.

Minor Essential Revisions

The authors reported that the CAIT has been validated in children (see discussion) yet in the conclusion suggest that development and validation of a paediatric version is required. This seems contradictory.

The choice of statistical analysis measures linear correlation between two variables and quantifies the direction and strength of the relationship between variables. Causality, or the direction of causality, cannot be assumed as the analysis doesn’t take into account any other variables (measured or unmeasured). It is important that the authors are cognisant of the limitations of the analysis when interpreting the results and cautious about the translation of the findings to practice.

The choice of chi-squared test, as opposed to kendall tau, warrants brief justification.

Review p values on pages 11-12. Some are reported incorrectly.

Coefficients should be reported to two decimal places.

I may be missing this but the r values for the contralateral FAI do not appear in Table 2.


Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.