Reviewer’s report

Title: ""The influence of gender and body mass index on the FPI-6 evaluated foot posture of 10- to 14-year-old school children in São Paulo, Brazil: A cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 22 Sep 2016

Reviewer: Samantha Williams

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for submitting this interesting article. Please see my comments/queries below:

- Abstract: Important and impact on clinical practice unclear.

- Introduction: Interesting but unclear in places. Page 3 Line 5 change to 'compromises'. Define context (line 9). Line 22 could you expand on what you mean by 'the functional mechanisms of lesions' - intro jumps from talking about pain and discomfort to lesions - how does this link? Clearly focussed issue defined.

- Aims: Please clarify your aims and objectives. Did you have more than one aim? Did you have any objectives (primary or secondary)? Page 5 Line 3 please define 'school age' as this is your main aim. Line 7 please clarify what you are looking to verify the influence of age, etc. on exactly?

- Methods: Recruitment method unclear / not stated. How were children recruited from this school? No detail on recruitment timescale. Inclusion criteria very broad with only one main criteria and two exclusion criterions detailed. Any other exclusions (e.g. unable to consent, etc.)? Was assent of the children sought or were they given any study information? No demographic data available - please add.

- FPI Measurements: Validated tool. Please clarify who collected the data. Clearly defined data collection method and inter-rater reliability tested although moderate when tested - any thoughts on this? Were steps taken to improve? Can you explain why this might be the case?

- Results: P Value good. Can't see if study team has accounted for any confounding factors (e.g. environmental / socio-economic) - please add if you have or explain why not done. How was effect of subjects refusing to participate evaluated?

- Discussion: Good evaluation of data against current literature however unsure how this translates to other populations and what the impact of the findings are on clinical practice.

Overall I think this is a well written paper however further detail/clarification is required in places. Recruitment method is unclear and I think it would be worth discussing how these findings translate to other populations and any potential benefits to clinical practice.
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
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Acceptable

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