Reviewer’s report

Title: Feasibility of a laboratory-based accelerometer calibration protocol for children with intellectual disabilities.

Version: 1 Date: 2 March 2015

Reviewer: Jeremy Goldberg

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Pilot and Feasibility studies

This study explores the feasibility of activities, measurements, and recruitment in a investigation of accelerometry in a sample of children with an intellectual disability.

The aims of this study are clearly defined and the manuscript, which is well written, provides a detailed account of the research conducted.

Significant issues relate to the following limitations:

1) the crew is low (only 6% participation rate), which raises the question on the extent to which the sample reflects the general population of individuals with developmental disabilities;

2) descriptive statistics (age, weight, height) are significantly different in the two populations studied; sample is compromised mainly of boys;

3) there is limited information on the level of function (intellectual capacity of individuals involved in the study; furthermore, there is an absence of information on their language (receptive and expressive), Social, Motor and other objective measures up functional ability.

While this study demonstrates the lack of feasibility for these subjects participating in a pilot study of an accelerometer calibration protocol for children with intellectual disabilities, which is its main conclusion, it does not provide helpful information for planning a similar study in the future.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests