



BAISHIDENG PUBLISHING GROUP INC

8226 Regency Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA

Telephone: +1-925-223-8242

Fax: +1-925-223-8243

E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com

http://www.wjgnet.com

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Orthopedics

ESPS manuscript NO: 24961

Title: Validation of the functional rating index for the assessment of athletes with neck pain

Reviewer's code: 03596816

Reviewer's country: Taiwan

Science editor: Shui Qiu

Date sent for review: 2016-02-18 19:28

Date reviewed: 2016-03-12 22:49

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper is a well designed paper and gives out the result that the other scoring system can be used for evaluation for neck pain of the athletes. There are two comments: 1. There have been 2 scoring system used to evaluate neck pain of the athletes. Please describe more about the significance of using FRI as the evaluation system other than NDI and NRS 2. Why do the authors focus on neck pain of athletes. Please describe more on the relationship between neck pain and the athletes, such as the kind of sports, etc. 3. Please ask the English authority for some grammar errors and the use of the phrases in this article



ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Orthopedics

ESPS manuscript NO: 24961

Title: Validation of the functional rating index for the assessment of athletes with neck pain

Reviewer's code: 03596609

Reviewer's country: Thailand

Science editor: Shui Qiu

Date sent for review: 2016-02-18 19:28

Date reviewed: 2016-03-15 12:46

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear Authors After complete review, I have some comments as followings: ? Why do authors choose to validate FRI? You do have NDI which can evaluate functions of neck, so please put the reasons in Introduction part. ? Please add rationale of your study to validate FRI in athlete group. Someone had study psychometric properties of this test in general patients with neck pain. Can it also be used in athlete group? ? Authors do not state about the duration of neck symptoms. Do you choose only acute or chronic phase of neck pain? ? In discussion, authors compared their results with ref 10 (FRI for LBP in athletes). Why don't they compare with patients with neck pain (ref 9)? Do we have to study for the other group of patients? ? Authors stated that lack of floor and ceiling effects indicated the content validity and the responsiveness of the PFRI, but in limitation part, you stated that the responsiveness of the PFRI to detect change over time was not evaluated. Which one is correct? ? Please clarify about content validity of this test. ? Please clarify the meaning of clinical data in Table 1. Do you mean disability scores?



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Orthopedics

ESPS manuscript NO: 24961

Title: Validation of the functional rating index for the assessment of athletes with neck pain

Reviewer's code: 01581273

Reviewer's country: United States

Science editor: Shui Qiu

Date sent for review: 2016-02-18 19:28

Date reviewed: 2016-03-16 07:08

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The goal of this paper is to "validate the culturally-adapted Persian Functional Rating Index (PFRI) for assessing neck pain (NP) in athletes." The background of this study is "no specific test for assessing NP in athletes." There have actually been a lot of instruments, scales and questionnaires developed to assess the functional limitations for people with neck pain. However, it is unclear how PFRI differs from them. It would be important for the authors to compare and contrast instruments assessing functional limitations of neck pain in athletes and non-athletes. It would be helpful for the authors to provide more information of PFRI. It will also be helpful to add some discussion on the implications of this study for readers.