

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

August 1, 2015

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 20240-Review.doc).

Title: Postural spinal balance defined by net intersegmental moments: Results of a biomechanical approach and experimental errors measurement

Author: Benjamin Blondel, Elke Viehweger, Bertrand Moal, Patrick Tropiano, Jean-Luc Jouve, Virginie Lafage, Raphael Dumas, Stéphane Fuentes, Gérard Bollini, Vincent Pomero

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Orthopedics*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 20240

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

Reviewer 02444729

In this Biomechanical study the authors describe the initial results and experimental error measurement of a protocol analyzing Human posture through sagittal intersegmental moments. After elaboration of a specific marker-set, 4 successive recordings were done on two volunteers by three different operators during three sessions in order to evaluate the experimental error measurement. A supplementary acquisition in a "radiographic" posture was also obtained. And these authors concluded that the first results confirm the technical feasibility of the protocol while the characterization of sagittal intersegmental net moments can have clinical applications such as evaluation of an unfused segment after a spinal arthrodesis. This is a very interesting study that helps in understanding the intersegmental moments in the human spine. Although more clinical studies are needed to justify the important findings of this experimental study, this nice paper merits publication in this journal.

Thanks for the comments.

Reviewer 03270459

The study is interesting. Manuscript needs major revision: What is your inclusion and exclusion criteria of your volunteers? Please explain those clearly.

Volunteers were free from any spinal disorders, or previous history of back pain or surgery. This have been introduced in the text.

Authors could introduce consistency test to comparison of intra-observer (inter-session) and inter-observer (inter-therapist) to maintain accuracy. Table 1, 2, 3 add more specific information in the first line.

First line of each table refers at the location of the intersegmental moment

At the end of Discussion, it is advisable to add a concise conclusion of the whole study.

Thanks for the comment; a conclusion can be found at the end of the discussion section of the manuscript.

As for writing, the abstract is too tedious;

Abstract has been revised.

Ethical statement should be more specific;

Ethical statement has been implemented based on WJO guidelines.

format of the whole manuscript should be adjusted.

Format of the manuscript has been adjusted based on WJO guidelines.