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**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Orthopedics*

**ESPS Manuscript NR:** 19303

**Manuscript Type:** SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Dear Dr Lian-Sheng Ma,

Re: Manuscript reference No. 19303

Please find attached a revised version of our manuscript "Photogrammetry as a tool for postural evaluation of the spine: a systematic review", which we would like to resubmit for publication as a systematic review in the World Journal of Orthopedics.

Your comments and those of the reviewers were highly insightful and enabled us to greatly improve the quality of our manuscript. In the following pages are our point-by-point responses to each of the comments made by the reviewers as well as your own comments.

Revisions in the text are shown using red font for changes. In accordance with reviewer #1's suggestion, we have changed the Figure 1. In accordance with reviewer #2's suggestion, we have included Figure 2. We hope that the revisions in the manuscript and our accompanying responses will be sufficient to make our manuscript suitable for publication in World Journal of Orthopedics.

We shall look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

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Point-by-point responses:

Reviewer #1

1) Regarding Figure 1, In a standard flowchart, different shapes have different conventional meanings. For example: A diamond represents a decision or branching point. Lines coming out from the diamond indicates different possible situations, leading to different sub-processes. I would strongly suggest that the Figure is redrawn accordingly to be more visually attractive and clear.

Figure 1 has been redrawn according to items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement (Moher et al., 2009).

2) In results section I am not sure that I understand what the author wanted to do with Figure 1, Table 1, Table 2? This was put as suggestion where to put tables? I think it would be better to leave that for page layout editor and to write as usual (.....articles were found to meet the inclusion criteria, thus 35 articles were selected for inclusion in this systematic review (Figure 1)..... scores between 7 and 8; 19 studies had scores between 9 and 10; and 6 studies had scores between 11 and 12. (Table 1).....etc

The words "Figure 1", "Table 1" and "Table 2" were written to suggest where to put the tables. We have removed those words and leave the decision about where to put figures and tables to the layout editor. As suggested by the reviewer we have placed the figure and table numbers in brackets within the body of the paragraph.

Reference:

**Moher D**, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, PRISMA Group. Reprint-Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. *Physical Therapy*. 2009; 89 (9): 873-880.

## Reviewer #2

This article demonstrates an in-depth review of the available literature on this topic.

1. However, I feel the text of the results section is too limited. This requires expansion to provide the reader with a clear summary of the included studies. The authors should provide short descriptions of the categories of included studies, alluded to in the discussion section. The relevant results from each category should then be briefly detailed. This would validate their comments in the discussion section

According the reviewer's suggestion, the relevant results from each category have been briefly detailed in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the discussion section.

2. The methods of the review is good but the authors need to justify (through reference or description) the use of only 12 of the 26 criteria of the 'Downs and Black' Scale. (Os métodos da avaliação é boa, mas os autores precisam justificar (por meio de referência ou descrição) o uso de apenas 12 dos 26 critérios dos 'Downs e Black' Escala.)

A justification has been included on paragraph 6 of the methodology section.

3. Lastly the inclusion of a series of figures to illustrate the photogrammetry techniques used would help the reader better understand the topic discussed. (Por fim, a inclusão de uma série de figuras que ilustram as técnicas utilizadas photogrammetry iria ajudar o leitor a compreender melhor o assunto discutido.)

In accordance with the reviewer's suggestion, Figure 2, has been included in the manuscript. This figure is now mentioned in paragraph 11 of the discussion section.