



Servicio Canario de la Salud
HOSPITAL UNIVERSITARIO
NTRA. SRA. DE CANDELARIA



Santa Cruz de Tenerife, May 7th, 2019

Dear Dr. Fang-Fang Ji, Science Editor, Editorial Office, World Journal of Orthopedics:

Following your invitation, we are submitting a revised version of Ms. No. 47448 entitled "Functional Physiotherapy Method Results for the Treatment of Idiopathic Clubfoot" by Noriela C. Garcia-Gonzalez, Jorge Hodgson-Ravina and Armando Jaime-Aguirre for publication as an original article for publication in World Journal of Orthopedics. We thank the editor and reviewer for his positive, valuable and constructive comments on our manuscript. We have addressed these comments accordingly and we have made the changes suggested. We have updated the manuscript according to the guidelines and requirements for manuscript revision and the format for retrospective study. In the manuscript, the added changes are highlighted in blue and the red balloons are eliminated. Below are our answers; also in this letter, we have added the answer to the reviewers.

I hope you find this revised version of the 47448-manuscript suitable for publication in World Journal of Orthopedics.

Yours sincerely,

These are the answers to your comments (highlighted in blue).

1. Please cite new references for this paper.

We have cited new references for the manuscript (1-14), and the previous numbering has been changed.

2. A short running title of less than 6 words should be provided.

We have added a short running title.

3. Please offer all ORCID number.

We have added all ORCID number.

4. Please provide the author contributions.

We have added the author contributions.

5. Please offer all ORCID number.

We have added all ORCID number in the suggested way.

6. An informative, structured abstract of no less than 350 words.

We have added structured abstract of 301 words. In the file uploaded on the page of the magazine, section BACKGROUND we wrote "whose etiology has been linked to genetic factors that cause an abnormal limb development." The reviewer has suggested expanding the etiology and we have eliminated this phrase and added "of multifactorial etiology."

7. Please list 5-10 key words, selected mainly from Index Medicus.

We have added 7 key words.

8. Please write a summary of no more than 100 words.

We have added the Core tip of 96 words.

9. Please offer the audio core tip.

We have added audio Core tip mp3.

10. The reference numbers should be superscripted in square brackets at the end of the sentence.

We have manually changed the references in this format; in addition to adding new references the previous numbering has changed.

11. The guidelines for writing and formatting Article Highlights.

The Highlights have been moved, and are now before the references section.

12. Please mark the location of figure 4 in the text.

We have marked in the text the location of figure 4. We had the mistake of naming 2 times figure 2, and we have corrected it, where it said figure 2 and 3, says figure 3 and 4.

13, 14, 15 and 16. Please provide the decomposable figure, whose separate parts are movable and words can be edited.

We have modified the format of the figure so that it can be edited. Besides, the legends of the figures we have moved them, now we have placed them under each figure. According to the format provided, the letters of the figures are changed to a square and adjusted up and to the left.

We also made these changes:

- In the section of the corresponding author, the PT and MPt Grade were eliminated to unify it with the one provided by the journal (BSc, MSc; Physiotherapist).
- The size of the letters of the titles of the tables was changed from p-10 to p-12. And the footnote from p-8 to p-10.

At the suggestion of the reviewer:

- The introduction has been expanded and the references updated [1-14].
- In the Materials and Methods section. **A: In Patients:** we add a clarification regarding the realization of photographs at the clubfeet (“to observed in detail the conditions of the feet and the sequential progress during the treatment, serving as support of the information obtained with the scale”). **B: Statistical analysis:** we add to the paragraph “The Odds-ratio (OR) analysis was used to determined relapse rate of the relapse of the approaches.”

- In the Results section, we have added the Odds-ratio (OR) and Table 4, to show the odds-ratio. “An OR= 1,20 indicates that the probability of relapse in RD group is 1.2 times more than in SVP group. It is show in table 4”.
- In the Discussion section, we have added a paragraph relapses rate “The relapses rate had a negative association with the applied approach.” We also add a paragraph about the learning curve of the approaches. “Regarding the learning curve of FPM approaches, we want to point out that learning and mastering the necessary skills to successfully apply the method takes time and requires knowledge. Thanks to its repetitive and extensive process, learning and experience are facilitated until reaching the stability that allows maintaining an adequate rhythm of work”.

In ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTS:

Research Methods, we have added “OR test was used for relapses rate”.

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

We thank the reviewers for the time devoted to this review, especially the reviewer 03708308 for his positive, valuable and constructive comments on our manuscript. We have addressed these comments accordingly and the new edits have been highlighted in blue in the manuscript. Below are our responses.

Reviewer's code: 03708308

1. The Abstract was not included in the Manuscript File as requested in the author's guidelines.

A.1. It has been our mistake; The abstract has been included in the manuscript.

2. In Introduction the authors should report alternative FPM treatments, as the Ponseti methods, with their advantages and disadvantages.

A.2. In the introduction, we have informed about the alternative treatment with the Ponseti method, with its advantages and disadvantages.

3. The authors reported only one etiopathogenic theory, the familiar one, citing 3 articles, the first one published in 1972, the second in 1998 and the last one in 2008. Improvement of this paragraph is mandatory, as well as, including the newest knowledge (for example Pavone, Vito, et al. "The etiology of idiopathic congenital talipes equinovarus: a systematic review." Journal of orthopaedic surgery and research 13.1 (2018): 206.)

A.3. In the Introduction, we have expanded the section on etiology and we also include updated bibliography, including Pavone et. al. 2018

4. According to Dimeglio-Bensahel scale, the feet were evaluated and then classified using photographs. Is reported in literature the use of scale by photos? the Who did assess the image? Who and When did take the photos? Could Prospective bias influence the evaluations?

A.4. The photographs were not used as a measuring instrument on the Dimeglio-Bensahel scale. We should clarify it in the text so as not to lead to confusion, we have expanded that information in the text. The photographs were made to observe in detail the conditions of the feet and the sequential progress during the treatment, serving as support of the information obtained with the scale. They are a very valuable reference for the parents, since they usually forget how the foot was at the beginning of the treatment, and they obtain a positive feedback when they observe the progress in a sequence of photographs.

5. In the discussion, the authors should include a paragraph about the learning curve of the approaches.

A.5. In the discussion, before the limitations of the study, we have added a paragraph about the learning curve of the approaches.

6. Could be interesting for the reader to know the relapse rate of the relapse of the approaches.

A.6. In the results section, we have added the Odds-ratio (OR). We show table 4.