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Title of the Manuscript:	Correlation between Level of Functional Ability and Sports Performance among Football Players with Chronic Ankle Instability (CAI)
Type of the Article	

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This journal's peer review policy states that <u>NO</u> manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '<u>lack of Novelty'</u>, provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and
		highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	ABSTRACT	
	Background section - Replace the sentence "It is because the relationship between the level functional ability and sport performance among the football players with CAI is still unclear." for "This could be because the relationship between the level functional ability and sport performance among the football players with CAI is still unclear." since we must maintain the formality and doubt in this affirmation.	
	INTRODUCTION	
	1 paragraph – Replace the sentence "It is because football sport involved a lot of direct contact between the players." for "This is due to football sport involves a lot of direct contact between the players." since it is necessary to increase the formality and it is an action that happens habitually, not in past form only.	
	3 paragraph – Replace "It is important to do the assessment because it is to test" with "It is essential to do the assessment because" since you have used the same expression before and it will not sound too repetitive in a short time.	
	Name the authors in the text of reference 20, so the phrase "According to the study done by ²⁰ ," should be replaced by "According to Hitler CE, Kilbreath SL, & Refshauge KM (2011) ²⁰ ,".	
	All this part should be in the methodology section since you are justifying the choice of this instrument "FAAM as a self-reported measurement tool has demonstrated strong psychometric properties like test-retest reliability, internal consistency, validity, reliability and responsiveness and it has been used for a range of different foot and ankle conditions21. In addition, FAAM is the most suitable tool to assess activity limitation and sports ability in people with CAI22. Therefore, further investigation of the level of functional ability and sports performance among football players with CAI in this study was done by using the FAAM." Please remove this from the introduction and put it in the "Research Measurement Tools - Primary Research Instrument" methodology section.	
	Always at the end of the introduction we must put the objective of the investigation, since we have previously given a justification of the reason for the study. Here it is necessary to put the objective of the study, which I am observing that you have in the methodology (the objective does not belong to the methodology). It should be clear in the text, at the end of the introduction being an example "Therefore, the objective of this study was to determine the relationship between the level of functional ability and sports performance among the football players with chronic ankle instability."	
	METHODOLOGY	
	This sentence is misspelled "This study is quantitative studies with correlation design." replace with "This study is a quantitative study with a correlation design."	
	Remove the objective from this section as I mentioned before.	
	In the Primary Research Instrument section, the justification for this instrument is	

missing, which, as I mentioned before, should go here (which should be removed from the introduction).

At the end of the Methodology, the Statistical Analysis section is missing where they must report the statistical program they used and the statistical tests they performed (I advise you to look at other similar papers to see how to elaborate this).

RESULTS

"This study was to find out the relationship between two variables which were the ADL and sports subscale, Pearson's Correlation Coefficients was used to determine the correlation." This should be in the Statistical Analysis section and not in Results.

Demographic Data section -

Delete "(age (years), number of years of football sports, duration of last ankle sprain (months))" in "Table1 summarized the demographic data (age (years), number of years of football sports, duration of last ankle sprain (months)) of the football players (n=42)" since it has been named before and is shown in the table.

Table 2 is unnecessary, it should be removed as you mentioned before in the paragraph "Forty-two of them were male (100%)". Therefore, Table 2 and the text "Table 2 showed the gender (male or female) in measures of central tendency of frequency and percentage" should be deleted. For this reason, you must rename the number of the tables that follow.

FAAM (ADL Subscale and Sports Subscale) section -

The text of "Football players with CAI completed the ADL subscale and sports subscale in FAAM questionnaire. ADL subscale represented the level of functional ability of the players while the sports subscale represented the sports performance of the players. To determine the level of functional ability and sports performance, the total points of ADL subscale and sports subscale were calculated in percentage (%) for each football players." It should be in the methodology part, when the instrument is described.

Delete "(n=42)" after football players in this paragraph since it has been mentioned before and is repetitive and does not give new information. In addition, in the title of the figures there is already this information on the number of participants. Also in the next section.

Correlation between the Level of Functional Ability (ADL subscale) and Sports Performance (Sports Subscale) section -

"To find out the relationship between the level of functional ability and sports performance among the football players with CAI, ADL subscale score and sports subscale score had been compared." this information has already been mentioned in the other sections for it, in the results section it should not be repeated, for this reason it must be removed from this section.

Table 4 and Figure 3 give exactly the same information; therefore, it is unnecessary to have both. I advise you to eliminate figure 3 since table 4 gives more information and gives frequency and percentage.

DISCUSSION

3 paragraph -

After the first sentence, add "according to our findings" so "With the history of previous lateral ankle sprain, it became a risk factor to have a recurrent sprain and develop CAI according to our findings."

Add the reference in "As mentioned above, mechanical instability and functional

instability can be seen in the CAI subject." and in "Mechanical instability related to ligament laxity and it can lead to the limitation in ankle movement which may cause a reduction in functional ability."

As I mentioned before, the authors must be cited in the text followed by the reference in "According to²⁸, overstretching..." please rewrite this throughout the entire section.

There is no reference to the study named in "Other study showed the limited range of motion (ROM) of ankle dorsiflexion may affect the biomechanical of the movement and the force that acts on the other joints such as hip and knee joint which will cause further injury on the other joints." please reference in the text.

In the part of "Furthermore, functional instability which included the affected muscle structures and the sensory nerve will alter the level of functional ability also. Muscle reaction time may be delayed and ankle joint proprioception may be affected due to the trauma to the receptors on the ligaments." references are also missing. Please put them and the most current.

Again, they state something in the text that has been proven but they do not reference "In addition, proprioception deficit has been proven that it is the main reason that affects the functional recovery and increases risk for long term ankle instability." please add.

As I mentioned before, in "According to²⁹, they..." rename with the authors name followed by the reference.

Clinical Implications section -

Reformulate this sentence "The results is strong enough because the measurement tools of this study which is FAAM has highly recommended in assessing patient with foot and ankle injury³⁰." since as they comment on the limitations, the sample is quite limited and objective evaluations of it are not made. This limits the use of the word "strong". For this reason, I recommend writing that sentence as, for example, "The results of this study seem valuable enough since the measurement tool of this study, which is the FAAM, has highly recommended in assessing patient with foot and ankle injury³⁰."

CONCLUSSION

The last sentence of the conclusions must be reformulated "This study provides good information for the football players or the physiotherapy and it may help them to have more awareness about the impact of CAI and may enhance the process of rehabilitation for the CAI football players." I advise replacing it with "This study provides valuable information for sports physiotherapy and may help football players to be more aware of the impact of CAI. Furthermore, this can help improve the rehabilitation process of CAI football players." since it simplifies the information given during the study.

Minor REVISION comments	ABSTRACT
	Results section - Remove a space before Pearson since there is double "(%). Pearson's".
	INTRODUCTION
	1 paragraph – Add a space after "Besides," in "Besides,that around five thousand of new ankle". Remove the space between "duration" and the references "in three years duration 7&8.".
	3 paragraph - add a space before "Besides" in "player ¹⁶ .Besides, assessing the functional".
	METHODOLOGY
	In the text, the METHODOLOGY section is not in capital letters. Remove the underlining to be able to maintain the same typography in all sections of the article and maintain a correct order.
	Implementation Phase and Data Collection Phase section - There is a typographical paragraph separation that should be removed since it is the same sentence "Questionnaires which included the patient information sheet and the FAAM were distributed to them during different training sessions."
	Replace "sample" with "participants" in the sentence "forty-two samples were needed in this study."
	DISCUSSION
	Delete the "(n=42)" after "football players" throughout this section.
	CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS
	These two sentences should be converted into an "Ankle sprains during match play or during training are very common in sporting population. Repetitive sprain may lead to CAI".
	LIMITATIONS
	Add space after age in "age(years),"
	CONCLUSIONS
	Write Conclusion in all caps to follow the typographical sections.
	REFERENCES
	I strongly recommend that references number 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 29 and 30 be replaced by more current ones (reference 29 is from 2002), and if it is not possible to replace them, at least try to add together to them other more current papers. Being in the year 2022, we can accept references as about 10 years old, therefore adding more current references to the topic.
Optional/General comments	The study in general has been interesting to read. However, as I have discussed in detail, there is information changed in sections that do not correspond. Several references are also missing from the discussion section.

PART 2:

		Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	

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