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RESEARCH & HIGHER DEGREES

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CRICOS IPC 00279B

Dear Ms Drummond,

Review of paper: Measuring the efficacy of whole body vibration Machine WBV 3000 for people with neuromuscular conditions.

Thank you for inviting me to review and comment on this research.

I have reviewed the above titled paper which describes a study on the efficacy of the WBV 3000 machine in the rehabilitation of people with some neuromuscular conditions, and its usefulness as an adjunctive tool in neuromuscular rehabilitation.

The study focused on patients' perceptions of the WBV 3000 machine as part of their treatment regime, and any differences it made to their level of pain, and enhanced functional performance.

The research method used was a short quantitative survey that asked patients to use a likert scale to rate their perceptions about the WBV 3000 machine and any differences it made to their level of pain and functional performance. It also sought the patients' views on the contribution the WBV 3000 machine made to their rehabilitation overall. The survey was straightforward and analyses used descriptive statistics to yield percentages. The results suggest that patients do find the WBV 3000 machine contributes positively to their rehabilitation and therefore the recommendations made in the report are reasonable.

As with many clinical studies it is often difficult to use a randomised control trial or to get a very large number of participants that permit more sophisticated statistical analyses. However, whilst this study is simple in design it does address an important question about how well an intervention using the WBV 3000 machine is received by patients. It provides a useful starting point for more advanced research designs that could use controls to determine the extent to which the WBV 3000 machine contributes to pain reduction and enhanced functional performance.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any of my comments some more.

Yours sincerely,

Jeannine Millsteed, PhD Scholar, MEd, BSc, PGDipSocRes&Eval, Dip OT, M(OTAL)

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