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July 28, 2023

J.D. Ball, Ph.D., ABPP Eastern Virginia Medical School ball@emeritus.evms.edu

Subject: Manuscript Submission

Dear Dr. J.D. Ball,

I am writing to submit our manuscript titled "Examining the Relationship Between BMI, Sex, and Fundamental Movement Skill Performance in Low-Income Rural Children" for consideration in your esteemed journal, Perceptual and Motor Skills.

The manuscript consists of 17 pages and approximately 3,713 words, exploring the crucial subject of how Body Mass Index (BMI), sex, and Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS) performance interrelate among low-income rural children aged 5 to 7 years. The text includes four tables and is supplemented with one attached figure. For evaluating FMS proficiency, we have employed the Furtado-Gallagher Child Observational Movement Pattern Assessment System (FG-COMPASS). Our analysis provides intriguing insights into how BMI and sex shape children's motor skill performance.

We confirm that this manuscript is original work, has not been published before, and has been submitted solely to Perceptual and Motor Skills. It will not be submitted anywhere else for publication until a final decision is made regarding its acceptance by your journal.

All authors listed, Ms. Mariah Bolin from Seneca High School and Dr. Ovande Furtado Jr from California State University, Northridge, have participated in the conception and design of this study, analyzed the data, participated in writing the paper, and have read and approved the content. There is full agreement on the order of authorship.

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors, and there are no conflicts of interest.

We believe that our research provides a valuable perspective to the existing literature on the interaction between BMI, sex, and fundamental movement skill performance, specifically within the context of rural, low-income settings. As such, it would be of significant interest to the diverse readership of Perceptual and Motor Skills.

We appreciate your consideration of our manuscript and look forward to hearing from you. We remain available to provide any further information you might need.

Respectfully.

Ovande Furtado Jr.

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