

Review of: "The SARC-F is a useful screening tool for detecting primary sarcopenia but not disease-related sarcopenia in ageing polio survivors"

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Thank you for the opportunity to review this article. Patients with PPS often want to discuss how much of the functional changes are related to normal age related loses verses the condition. A tool that might help inform this discussion would be welcomed. However the main issue here is the none symmetrical or uniform nature of polio related residual weakness and then trying to measure it using a tool designed for sarcopenia which is generally considered a symmetrical, whole body condition. As described in the article even the tools which are within the EWGSOP criteria as the gold standard showed challenges with how they could be applied. Considering the SARC-F, most populations would expect to tip into a positive score on the tool only as they age where as a polio population may well have scored on the tool through out their life. I agree with the conclusions that the tool is not specific enough to determine between disability and effects seen as a result of sacropenia. The article is well prepared but the premise of whether you can ever describe a person whos limbs are in variable states in terms of a condition that would be applied to the whole body seems to be fundamentally perplexing and could have been explored a little more in the discussion. But I welcome attempt at consideration of the topic.

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