

Discussion:

Spring testing:

In a platform presentation in Barcelona Spain Teresa Krammer presented a thesis by Luanne Olson that demonstrated the spring test developed by Jerry Hesch had greater than 70 % agreement in seven of ten spring tests between two different clinicians. The three spring tests that fell below 70% agreement included the posterior rotation of ilium with subjects in the supine position (64%), inferior stress of the ilium with subjects in the supine position (64%), and the lateral ilium stress with subjects in the prone position (67%). Potter and Rothstein used 70% agreement as criteria for acceptance of clinical tests to evaluate pelvic dysfunction. Research has shown that most tests to determine reliability in the pelvic region are not useful.

Spring tests were also analyzed by subject. No investigator learning curve was noted within the groupings of these subjects. Olsen theorized that a potential explanation might be that patients had discomfort with initial spring testing and on subsequent testing produced a muscular contraction to guard against pain. This would result in variability so spring test results