Measuring Walking: a Handbook of Clinical Gait Analysis.

Richard Baker. Mac Keith Press London 2013. ISBN 978-1-908316-66-0. Soft cover. 229 pages. RRP: $95.90 (www.fishpond.co.nz)

Clinical or three-dimensional Gait Analysis is a specialized area of clinical practice that assesses, plans, and treats individuals with conditions that affect their walking ability. This book is the culmination of the author's scientific background and 25 years of practical experience in clinical gait analysis. This book is a practical guide that builds on the wisdom of authors such as David Sutherland and Jim Gage and also suggests new ways of thinking for future practice. This book is a good read for any clinician, student, or researcher working in or intending to work in a clinical gait service.

This book offers a clear and practical step by step guide that covers everything from the basic principles of clinical gait analysis through to more specific topics for the specialists in the field such as data processing, quality and how to set up and maintain a clinical gait analysis service.

Chapters One and Two cover the basic elements of gait and gait analysis such as the gait cycle and gait graphs. Good descriptions of these are provided with clear illustrations as backup. Chapters Three and Four cover the conventional gait model and alternatives to this model. These are good chapters to read in order to gain an understanding of marker placement and their relationship to the biomechanical model. Aspects of marker placement are well covered with good practical advice given on marker placement. Chapter Five focuses on advanced processing techniques for the specialist reader

Chapters Six to Eight cover electromyography, the clinical video and the physical examination. The author, in consultation with others, covers all aspects of setting up, collecting data and physical measurements in detail. It should be noted that not all labs collect data in all the areas covered in the text, such as electromyography, as part of their standard data collection.

Chapters Ten and Twelve are related to the relationships between data of different types (two-dimensional analysis, joint angles and force plate data); interpretation and reporting. The suggestions made when interpreting data of different types are well thought through and can greatly assist in establishing a clinical picture of the patient. The standardized methods of interpretation of the data will also assist in developing a consistent methodology within a gait analysis service. The impairment based reporting that the author suggests requires input from the whole team and helps to prioritize and focus the issues that affect the patients walking ability.

Chapters Eleven and Thirteen cover quality and accuracy and measurement variability. These chapters succeed in describing a very complex process and highlight areas where errors are typical. It gives clear direction on how to perform a quality audit and how to maintain the levels of service expected of such a service. Finally Chapters Fourteen and Fifteen offer good insight into setting up and maintaining a clinical gait laboratory and service. These chapters may be of interest when performing equipment upgrades or when setting up a brand new service.

Yanto Naudé BHSc (Physio), BBus
Research Officer, Auckland Clinical Gait Analysis Service, Health & Rehabilitation Research Institute, AUT University

The Honorary Editorial Committee thanks the people listed below for their willingness and dedication in reviewing manuscripts submitted to the New Zealand Journal of Physiotherapy in 2013:

Alsion Chung
Anna Mackey
Cathy Chapple
Eileen McKinlay
Jessica Povell
Joanne Potterton
Lisa Moodie
Lynne Taylor
Mark Shirley
Nikki Saywell
Sandra Bassett
Stephanie Woodley
Suzanne Ackerlay
Verna Stavric
Angie Fearon
Anna McCrea
Cheryl Hefford
Hilda Mulligan
Jessie Janssen
Lexie Wright
Liz Binns
Margot Skinner
Nada Signal
Paul Hendrik
Sandy Ferdinand
Sue Hinds
Suzie Mudge
William Levack
Ann Sezier
Barby Singer
Daniel Ribeiro
Jessica Povak
Jo Smith
Lisa Ferguesson
Lynley Anderson
Mark Laslett
Nicola Towersey
Peter McNair
Sarah Bonham-Lloyd
Susan Kohut
Todd Stretton