





non-parametric and asymmetric, a two-tailed sign test was carried out to evaluate statistical significance. Within this the independent variable is the Kinesiotaping and the dependent variable is the reach in each of the three directions.

## Results

Participant details are provided in Table 1. All subjects recorded a CAIT score of less than 24/30. Statistical analysis revealed no significant differences between taped and un-taped reach distances in the AM ( $p=0.210$ ), M ( $p=0.454$ ) or PM ( $p=0.077$ ) directions (Table 2). However this difference was just outside significance for the PM direction suggesting a small increase in functional reach when Kinesiotaping was applied to participants with CAI.

## Discussion

These results demonstrate that there is no significant difference in reach distance on SEBT, suggesting that the Kinesiotaping procedure had no effect. This illustrates that the use of Kinesiotape on a chronically unstable ankle has negligible effect on functional performance in these subjects. This suggests that there is little, if any, benefit in using Kinesiotape as used in this study in treatment or rehabilitation of chronic ankle instability.

Previous studies have demonstrated that taping is one of the most common means of supporting a chronically unstable ankle [18] and has a positive protective and rehabilitating effect on those with this condition [19-22]. It is, however, beneficial to note that there have been very few studies in previous research looking particularly at the efficacy of Kinesiotape, especially in relation to CAI. This highlights the need for further research, as Kinesiotape is now being used increasingly worldwide, particularly by sports' players.

Even though there are relatively few studies looking into Kinesiotape, the findings of this study dispute those found by Zajt-Kwiatkowska et al. [23], who stated that the application of Kinesiotape increased the functional capabilities of participants with acute ankle sprain. This could partly explain the differences as the current study used participants with CAI and in an immediate sense, Kinesiotape may allow a more rapid return to painless movement, though ultimately leading to the same degree of recovery [24]. The present study was, however, consistent with Hendrick [25], who found that it was not possible to determine whether or not Kinesiotape had any effect on the ankle. It has also been suggested that subjects with chronic ankle instability perceive greater stability, confidence and reassurance when tape is applied to that ankle even if functionally there appears to be little difference [26,27]. Therefore any benefit (t a)9(17)47dre appelow loa6(o )1(br f)-636(o )1(b)-9(e )1(IT(k)-9n imm)416(a))(a)l [1(un toh toh te(e )-8(o b) bwaebe.082 Twd p(c)-7c(e i)3(s a)19(p)-a166(esi1(035)-035(6b)-4)1(H)2 lo TJ On(6(. lb)-9()))TJ On(r)1(a)l [1(u03)3(a)19

the Kinesiotape to produce its effect may be of benefit to any further study. Elen et al. [24] found an early benefit (within one day) in subjects with shoulder injuries to whom Kinesiotape was applied, rather than within minutes. As Kinesiotape is in some cases regarded as primarily for rehabilitation [25], particularly in dealing with chronic issues such as CAI, which take longer to heal than an acute ankle sprain, further time for effect could be of benefit.

18. .DUOVVRQ -/ 6ZGG pDVVRQ \*2 7KH HIIHFW RI WDSLQJ RQ DQNOH  
VWDELQDW\ 3UDFWLFDO LPSOLFDFWLRQV 6SRUWV 0HG  
&DOODJKDQ 05ROH RI DQNOH WDSLQJ DQG EUDFLQJ LQ WKH DWKOHWH %U -  
6SRUWV 0HG  
\*DUULFN -\* 5HTXD