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1	Angle-specific isokinetic shoulder rotational strength can be reliably assessed
2	in collision and contact athletes
3	
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## 28 **ABSTRACT**:

29 An increased understanding of rotational strength as a potential prognostic factor for injury in 30 contact-and-collision athletes may be important in planning return to sport. The aim of this 31 study was to (1) determine the test-retest reliability of clinically-relevant, angle-specific 32 rotational and peak torgue measurements in a cohort of uninjured collision and contact 33 athletes, (2) develop a normal descriptive profile of angle-specific rotational torque 34 measurements in the same cohort, and (3) examine the effects of direction and joint angle 35 on shoulder rotational strength inter-limb asymmetries. Twenty-three collision-and-contact 36 athletes were recruited for the inter-day reliability sub study and 47 athletes were recruited 37 for the remaining sub studies. We used intraclass correlation coefficients with 95% 38 confidence intervals to quantify inter-day reliability of all variables. We used a two-way 39 repeated measures ANOVA to analyse differences in absolute inter-limb asymmetries. Inter-40 day reliability for the isokinetic strength variables was good-to-excellent (0.78-0.90) on the 41 dominant side and moderate-to-good (0.63-0.86) on the non-dominant side. Maximum 42 angle-specific torque (as well as peak torque) can be measured reliably in internally and 43 externally-rotated positions. A normal profile of clinically-relevant, angle-specific shoulder 44 rotational torque measurements for collision-and-contact athletes has been established 45 which provides a reference when assessing shoulder strength in this population. 46

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# 47 Keywords

48 Shoulder; return to sport criteria; isokinetic dynamometry; shoulder strength; contact athletes.

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#### 56 **INTRODUCTION**:

57 Shoulder injuries are common in collision and contact sports. In professional and amateur 58 rugby shoulder injuries have been associated with a high burden attributed to their 59 incidence, recurrence, and severity in terms of time lost from sport<sup>1,2</sup>. In school-boy rugby 60 shoulder injuries were responsible for more days lost than any other injury<sup>3</sup>. Glenohumeral 61 joint dislocations in particular have the potential to result in long periods of absence from 62 play<sup>2,3</sup>. The high rate of recurrence associated with shoulder injuries in contact and collision 63 sports is of concern particularly in adolescent players, warranting an improved 64 understanding of prognostic factors associated with injury.

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66 Isokinetic dynamometry is the preferred technique for the quantification of muscle strength in 67 the upper limb and is the current gold standard measure to identify asymmetries in rotational 68 peak torque<sup>4</sup>. It is frequently used for diagnostic purposes and to assess the outcome of 69 therapeutic interventions and rehabilitation<sup>5</sup>. Some studies in overhead sports have shown 70 an association between imbalance of the rotational torque producing muscles and 71 development of injury during the sporting season<sup>6,7</sup>, yet other studies particularly involving collision and contact sports demonstrate no association<sup>8,9</sup>. There are fewer studies 72 73 examining the normal descriptive profiling of rotational shoulder strength, and its potential as 74 a prognostic factor for injury in contact- and collision-athletes in comparison to overhead 75 athletes. The relationship between shoulder muscle strength balance and prognostic factor 76 for predicting injury in this cohort of athletes remains ambiguous.

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Isokinetic dynamometry is widely used to measure peak torque, clinical practitioners however, often perform manual muscle testing of rotational strength throughout range. This establishes a more comprehensive picture of shoulder-rotational-torque-producing-muscle function and helps target rehabilitation<sup>10</sup>. It may therefore, be important to isokinetically measure rotational torque at more functional ranges such as the position of 90° externally rotated with 90° abduction . This may be particularly important in contact and collision sports

(such as rugby), where combined abduction and external rotation positions (tackler and
poached positions) are associated with a higher risk of anterior dislocation<sup>11</sup>. Obtaining
information from peak rotational torque measures alone may fail to identify inter-limb
strength asymmetries of clinical relevance in the athletic population.

The reliability of isokinetic testing for measuring torque at clinically-relevant internally rotated and externally rotated angles at the glenohumeral joint has yet to be explored. Additionally, limited normative data are available regarding clinically relevant rotational strength parameters for contact and collision athletes. Establishing a normal strength profile for these athletes will provide the clinician with a valuable reference point for comparison. Therefore, the primary aim of the present study was to determine the test-retest reliability of clinically-relevant, angle-specific shoulder rotational torque and peak rotational torque measurements in a cohort of uninjured collision and contact athletes. The secondary aim of this study was to develop a normal descriptive profile of angle-specific shoulder rotational torque measurements in the same cohort. The final aim of the study was to examine the effects of direction and joint angle on shoulder rotational strength inter-limb asymmetries. 

112 **METHODS**:

# 113 Study Design

114 This is a cross-sectional, observational study.

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# 116 **Participants**

117 A convenience sample of male participants, aged 18 to 40 years of age, who were

118 participating in competitive collision and/or contact sport <del>locally</del>, were invited to take part in

the study. We defined athletes that purposely hit or collide with each other or with inanimate

120 objects as part of their main sport were defined as collision or contact athletes, e.g. rugby-

121 basketball<sup>12</sup>. Athletes that routinely make contact with each other or with inanimate objects

122 but usually with less force than in collision sports were defined as athletes who played

123 contact sport, e.g. basketball<sup>42</sup>. Athletes were classified as playing at a competitive level if

124 they actively competing competed in competition and/or were registered in a local, regional

125 or national federation. We excluded Anyone with symptomatic upper limb pathology that had

126 been actively managed in the last 6 months or whom had under gone upper limb surgery in

127 the previous 12 months was excluded . We also excluded participants that had a health

128 condition that could explain reduction in shoulder strength (e.g. inflammatory arthritis,

129 neurological disorder), they also were excluded.

130

Section one of the study assessed the inter-day reliability of an isokinetic dynamometer in capturing torque measurements of the shoulder joint at various angles in a uninjured cohort of collision and contact athletes. Section two of the study generated a descriptive profile of the strength measurements in a uninjured cohort of collision and contact athletes. The testing took place at the biomechanics laboratory at the XXX. The study was approved by the XXX.

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138 **Test protocol** 

The We recorded the athlete's height, mass and dominant limb (defined as the preferred throwing arm) were recorded before testing. commenced. Prior to Before testing Participants then completed a standardised warm-up comprising which consisted of two minutes of light jogging, five body-weight squats and 20 shoulder internal and external rotations against light (banded) resistance at 90° abduction. For inter-day reliability testing two testing sessions were completed with a the test-retest interval time between sessions was 2-9 days interval between sessions.

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# 147 Isokinetic Dynamometry

148 The participants performed concentric shoulder internal rotation (IR) and ER isokinetic 149 testing at 90°/s (Cybex Humac NORM, Computer Sports Medicine, Inc., Soughton, MA, 150 USA) as previously described<sup>13</sup>. The non-dominant limb was tested first followed by the 151 dominant limb. Participants lay down in the supine position lay supine with their elbow and 152 shoulder in line with the centre of rotation of the dynamometer (Figure 1). The upper limb 153 was rested in the rotation cuff pad, with the olecranon approximating the axis of the 154 dynamometer and the hand gripping the input shaft. Once in position participants forearm 155 was strapped in with velcro straps. They were asked to keep their back flat and to rest the 156 arm not been tested on their stomach throughout testing (Figure 1). Range of motion was 157 set to 90° of ER and 60° of IR. Participants performed a 5-repetition warm up familiarisation 158 set of concentric-concentric external and internal rotation at 90°/s followed by a 60 second 159 rest period. They then performed 2 sets of 5 maximal repetitions with a 60 second rest 160 period between sets. During their maximal repetitions they were instructed to "push and pull 161 as hard and as fast as you can from stopper to stopper".

162

163 Figure 1 Setup for isokinetic shoulder internal and external rotation using an isokinetic164 dynamometer

- 165
- 166 Data processing

All torques were gravity-corrected. The following rotational torques were extracted from the working set with the highest peak ER torque : ER peak torque; ER torque at joint angle 0°(ER0°); ER torque at the internally rotated position of 50° (ER50°), ER torque at the externally rotated position of 80° (ER80°), IR peak torque, IR torque at joint angle 0° (IR0°); IR torque at the internally rotated position of 50° (IR50°) and IR torque at the externally

172 rotated position of 80° (IR80°). All variables were divided by body mass prior to

173 analysis. Absolute inter-limb asymmetries were calculated for each variables as:

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$$AbsAsymmetry = (1 - \frac{Minimum of Dominant and Nondominant limb}{Maximum of Dominant and Nondominant limb}) \times 100$$

This metric Absolute asymmetry quantifies the percentage asymmetry for each individual for the relevant variable, regardless of whether the maximum value was obtained on the dominant or on the non-dominant limb, and thus avoids the requirement therefore avoiding the need to select an arbitrary reference limb for the calculation<sup>14</sup>.

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# 181 Statistical analysis

182 Analyses were conducted in SPSS (version 26.0, USA). Descriptive statistics (mean, 183 standard deviation and 95% confidence intervals) were calculated for all strength variables. 184 In addition concentric external to internal rotation strength ratios were reported for peak 185 torque and torque of all joint angles . All dependent variables were tested for normal 186 distribution and homogeneity of variance using the one-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test 187 and the Levene's test. As no significant deviations from normality or homogeneity of 188 variance were identified, parametric statistical models were used. We used intraclass 189 correlation coefficients (ICCs) (average measurement, absolute agreement, 2-way mixed-190 effects model) with 95% confidence intervals to quantify inter-day reliability of all 191 variables. Values less than 0.50 were indicative of poor reliability, values between 0.50 were 192 0.75 indicated moderate reliability, values between 0.75 and 0.90 indicated good reliability,

193	and values greater than 0.90 indicated excellent reliability. <sup>15</sup> Absolute reliability was
194	assessed by calculating the standard error of measurement (SEM) and minimum detectable
195	change (MDC). SEM values were calculated as follows; SEM = SD × $\sqrt{(1 - ICC)}$ , with SD
196	referring to all measurements in the sample (both test and retest measurements). The SEM
197	was used to calculate MDC values ; MDC <sub>90</sub> = <i>z</i> -score (90% CI) × SEM × $\sqrt{2}$ and MDC <sub>95</sub> = <i>z</i> -
198	score (95% CI) × SEM × $\sqrt{2^{16}}$ . We analysed differences in absolute inter-limb asymmetries
199	using a 2-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) for repeated measures, in which the within-
200	subject factors were direction (2 levels) and joint angle (4 levels). In the presence of an
201	interaction effect, direction and joint angle were tested <i>post hoc</i> at each level of the
202	interacting variable using a Bonferroni adjustment. In the absence of an interaction effect
203	main effects were explored. Significance was accepted at $\alpha$ = 0.05.
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221 **RESULTS:** 

Baseline characteristics for the study are shown in Table 1.

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Data from the inter-day reliability analysis for the isokinetic strength measurements are summarised in Table 2. ICC values ranged from 0.78 to 0.90 on the dominant side and from 0.63 to 0.86 on the non-dominant side. The MDC<sub>90</sub> varied from 5.66 N.m.kg<sup>-1</sup> (ER peak torque, dominant side) to 12.62 N.m.kg<sup>-1</sup> (IR 0°, dominant side). The descriptive analysis and absolute inter-limb asymmetry values of the isokinetic rotational strength presented in Table 3. The isokinetic concentric external to internal rotation strength ratios are presented in Table 4.

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232 Mauchly's test indicated that the assumption of sphericity had been violated for the 233 interaction between direction and joint angle, therefore Greenhouse-Geisser corrected 234 degrees of freedom are reported. There was a statistically significant interaction effect between direction and joint angle (F(2,95) = 11.88, p= <.001,  $np^2$ =0.205) (Figure 2). There 235 236 was no significant main effect of direction on absolute asymmetry values (F(1,46) = .845, p = 3.62,  $\eta_{D}^{2}$  = . 018) while was a significant main effect of joint angle on absolute asymmetry 237 values (F(2,96) = 20.94, p = <0.001,  $\eta p^2$  = .313). Post hoc analysis showed that mean IR 238 239 absolute asymmetry values were significantly different from the mean ER absolute 240 asymmetries for IR50° (p=0.049), a mean difference of 3.97% (95% CI, 0.10 - 7.93) % and 241 ER80° (p=<.001), a mean difference of 10.13% (95% CI, 4.62 – 15.65) %. There was no 242 significant difference for the effect of joint angle for the direction of IR. However all externally 243 rotated joint angle positions were significantly different to ER80° (ER50° (p=<.001), 0° 244 (p=<.001), peak torque (p=<.001)). 245

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#### 248 **DISCUSSION:**

249 This study determines the reliability of isokinetic testing for measuring rotational torque at 250 angles of clinical interest and establishes a normal descriptive profile of concentric internal 251 and external rotational strength, at these angles, in male collision- and contact-athletes. 252 Isokinetic rotational strength can be measured with good to excellent reliability (0.78 - 0.90) 253 on the dominant side and moderate to good reliability (0.63 - 0.86) on the non-dominant 254 side at the various angles throughout range in this cohort of athletes. Our ICCs for torque at 255 ER0°; ER50°, ER80°, IR0°; IR50° and IR80° are comparable to peak torque, the standard 256 measurement used in isokinetic dynamometry studies. The developed profile of isokinetic 257 strength measures and external to internal rotation strength ratios can be used clinically as a 258 comparative for pathological shoulders in male collision and contact athletes.

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260 Most studies on isokinetic dynamometry that examine rotational strength report peak 261 torques<sup>17–19</sup>. To our knowledge this is the first study to show that maximum angle-specific 262 torque (as well as peak torque) can be measured reliably in internally and externally rotated 263 positions in a cohort of un-injured collision and contact athletes. The purpose of testing 264 rotational strength throughout range in an un-injured cohort of athletes is to allow us to 265 identify potential 'normal' inter-limb asymmetry in vulnerable positions of the shoulder (e.g. 266 towards the 90° externally rotated position with 90° abduction) and to establish a more 267 comprehensive picture of the shoulder rotational torque-producing muscles in this cohort of 268 athletes. Our results also show higher reliability for ER on the dominant side (0.78 - 0.90) 269 compared to the non- dominant side (0.63 - 0.77). This may have clinical relevance in a 270 pathological population. As the non-dominant limb may not be as reliable to test as the 271 dominant limb in ER, direct side-to-side comparison in clinical practice should be interpreted 272 with caution. We recommend that clinicians are aware of the SEM and MDC values to help 273 determine meaningful change and baseline descriptive scores are continually established as 274 reference.

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276 Comparison of our data with that of other studies showed that the peak torgues of ER (44.6 277 n.m.kg<sup>-1</sup> dominant side, 44.7 n.m.kg<sup>-1</sup> non- dominant side) and IR (58.7 n.m.kg<sup>-1</sup> 1 dominant 278 side, 59.1 n.m.kg<sup>-1</sup> non- dominant side) are greater than isokinetic rotational strength 279 described in un-injured overhead athletes, such as baseball, volleyball, water polo, and 280 handball players<sup>18,20</sup>. Differences in how these populations train and prepare for their sport 281 compared to contact and collision athletes can affect the strength and role of the rotational 282 torgue producing muscles. It is therefore imperative that reference values are available for 283 unique cohorts of athletes. However we acknowledge that it remains extremely difficult to 284 make direct comparison with other studies as there is still large variation on the angular 285 velocity chosen, mode of contraction and position of participant during testing.

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287 Inter-limb asymmetries were between 8.3% and 22.8%. Asymmetry magnitude for torgue at 288 ER80° (22.8±16.7%) was significantly greater than torgue at all other joint angles of ER. 289 Asymmetry magnitude for IR was significantly different to ER at joint angle of IR50° and 290 ER80°. As the torgue that athletes can generate is less at ER80 (22.5 N.m.kg-1 on the 291 dominant side and 20.2 N.m.kg-1 on the non-dominant side), the percentage magnitude of 292 difference will consequently be greater. Several studies have reported inter-limb 293 asymmetries in healthy uninjured throwing athletes using isokinetic dynamometry and report 294 broadly aiming for no more than 10% difference between dominant throwing arm and the 295 non-dominant arm<sup>21,22</sup>. However in a cohort of rugby players Edouard et al. (2009)<sup>23</sup> found 296 no significant difference between the dominant and non-dominant side for IR and ER 297 concentric and eccentric muscle strength. It is important to note that for the majority of 298 studies examining isokinetic rotational strength, inter-limb asymmetries have been reported 299 as a percentage with distinctions being made between dominant and non-dominant limbs . 300 Directional asymmetries may run the risk over interpreting the magnitude of asymmetry in 301 normative cohorts and potentially setting unrealistic targets for an injured group<sup>24</sup>. In this 302 study we present absolute asymmetry values. Absolute asymmetry values remove 303 information regarding the direction of the asymmetry and hence the values are unaffected by

reference values and potentially inflated scores<sup>14</sup>. Absolute asymmetry values will allow for a
 more standardised comparison to an injured group<sup>24</sup>.

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307 The isokinetic peak torgue ratio values reported in adult overhead athletes are often 308 between 66 and 75%, such that external rotators are at least two-thirds the strength of the 309 internal rotators in the concentric mode<sup>20</sup>. Our peak torque ER:IR ratios are between 77 and 310 78%, suggesting that contact and collision athletes are less likely to develop stronger 311 internal rotators compared to overhead athletes. They are slightly higher than a previous 312 study examining isokinetic peak torque in rugby players<sup>23</sup>. However, we must draw caution 313 from making too many comparisons due to differing methodologies used in the studies and 314 the heterogenous population of collision and contact athletes used in our study. Our study 315 also showed ER:IR ratio varied between 0.43 and 1.07 depending on joint angle. At ER80° 316 the external rotators are less than half the strength of the internal rotators (0.48 for the 317 dominant side and 0.43 for the non-dominant side). Although not directly comparable, it has 318 been shown that isometric ER:IR ratio, measured with a handheld dynamometer, is similarly 319 lower in the position of 90° of ER with 90° abduction in overhead male athletes, varying from 320 0.59 in the dominant hand 0.67 in the non-dominant side<sup>25</sup>. Our substantially lower ER:IR 321 ratio at ER80° may be suggestive that the external rotators of contact and collision athletes 322 are relatively weaker compared to the internal rotators in the abducted and externally rotated 323 position. However, as this is the first exploratory study, to our knowledge, examining 324 isokinetic torque at these joint angles, further studies are required to confirm findings. At 325 IR50°, the external rotators are stronger than the internal rotators. These ratios are of 326 interest as a comparative for pathological shoulders in contact and collision male athletes as 327 ER:IR ratios are often used as a benchmark for return to sport.

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#### 332 STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS:

333 This is the first study examining the reliability of maximum angle-specific rotational torque 334 (as well as peak torque) at the glenohumeral joint, however some limitations should be 335 noted. We tested male athletes across a variety of collision and contact sports. Since 336 shoulder rotational strength measurements and ratios are likely to be affected by the type of 337 contact / collision sport played this will impact the generalisability of our results. Our 338 population sample is also heterogenous for level of sport, including recreational and semi-339 professional athletes. We cannot extrapolate the results to injured athletes, female athletes 340 or other sporting populations. In addition we only captured concentric IR and ER rotation 341 strength measurements. There is a different pattern of torque production with isokinetic 342 eccentric activity, however this may be of greater interest in the throwing athlete rather than 343 the contact and collision athlete, where functionally specific eccentric activity is considered 344 important. For angular velocity we limited ourselves to 90°/s. We may be missing clinically 345 relevant data from higher velocities. However, in a pilot study we found that preset angular 346 velocities higher than 90°/s could not be maintained during the whole movement trajectory 347 and we therefore had to conduct testing at a slower angular velocity to obtain more 348 reproducible measurements.

349

#### 350 **CONCLUSION**:

351 Obtaining information from peak rotational torque measures alone could fail to identify 352 shoulder rotational strength asymmetries of clinical relevance in the athletic population. The 353 results of this study demonstrate maximum angle-specific isokinetic shoulder rotational 354 strength can be reliably assessed in collision and contact athletes. The developed profile of 355 isokinetic strength during internal and external rotation can be used clinically as a 356 comparative to pathological shoulders in this cohort. ER:IR ratio varies depending on joint 357 angle. At IR50°, the external rotators are stronger than the internal rotators while at ER80° 358 the external rotators are less than half the strength of the internal rotators. Future research is

359 required to determine whether the same or greater inter-limb asymmetries occur in injured or

360 symptomatic shoulders.

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# 384 Data availability request:

385 The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author

386 upon request

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# **TABLES:**

	Reliability Study	Descriptive Study
n	23	47
Age (years)	25.3+/-4.8	27.3+/-5.4
Height (cm)	177.8 +/-5.6	175.9 +/-24.3
Weight (kg)	78.5+/-10.1	85.5+/-11.4
Sport		
%Gaelic Football	26%	36%
%Rugby	18%	34%
%Soccer	26%	13%
% Mixed Martial Arts	4%	7%
%Multiple	9%	2%
%Hurling	4%	7%
%Basketball	0%	2%
%Field Hockey	13%	0%
Level of Participation		
%Recreational	91%	77%
%Semi-Professional	9%	23%
Dominance		
%Right	96%	85%
%Left	4%	15%

**Table 1** Baseline characteristics of A) reliability study and B) descriptive profile

			Inte	er Session F	Reliability (Test-retes	t)		
	Dominant				Non-Dominant			
	ICC (95% CI)	SEM	MDC90	MDC95	ICC (95% CI)	SEM	MDC90	MDC95
(n=23)								
ER Peak Torque (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.90 (0.75,0.96)	2.04	4.77	5.66	0.66 (0.19,0.86)	3.36	7.85	9.32
ER0° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.80 ( 0.51,0.91)	2.54	5.92	7.04	0.63 (0.10,0.84)	3.78	8.81	10.47
ER50° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.87 (0.69,0.95)	2.27	5.31	6.30	0.66 (0.20,0.86)	3.50	8.17	9.70
ER80° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.78 (0.49,0.91)	2.86	6.67	7.92	0.77 (0.44,0.90)	3.01	7.03	8.35
IR Peak Torque (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.78 (0.50,0.90)	5.72	13.35	15.86	0.86 (0.68,0.94)	4.01	9.34	11.09
IR0° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.78 (0.48,0.90)	5.41	12.62	14.99	0.80 (0.53,0.91)	4.74	11.05	13.13
IR50° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.80 (0.53,0.91)	3.98	9.28	11.03	0.72 (0.36,0.88)	4.77	11.12	13.21
IR80° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.86 (0.67,0.94)	3.84	8.95	10.64	0.76 (0.48,0.90)	4.61	10.77	12.79

**Table 2** Inter-day reliability with their 95 % CI for the isokinetic strength measurements

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*CI,* confidence interval; ICC, intraclass correlation coefficient; MDC, minimum detectable change; SEM, standard error of measurement; ER, external rotation; IR, internal rotation; ER0°, ER torque at joint angle; ER50°, ER torque at the internally rotated position of 50°; ER80°, ER torque at the externally rotated position of 80°; IR0°, IR torque at joint angle 0°; IR50°, IR torque at the internally rotated position of 50°; ER80°, IR torque at the externally rotated position of 50°; IR80°, IR torque at the externally rotated position of 80°; IR80°, IR torque at the external rotated position of 80°.

 Table 3 Isokinetic concentric external and internal rotation strength

	Limb Normative Data Mean +/-Standard Deviation (95% Confidence Interval)					
Measure	Dominant	Non-Dominant	Absolute Asymmetry			
(n=47)						
ER Peak Torque (N.m.kg-1)	44.6+/- 7.8(42.3, 46.9)	44.7 +/-7.2 (42.6, 46.8)	8.4 +/- 5.6(6.8,10.7)			
ER80° (N.m.kg-1)	22.5 +/-6.2(20.7,24.3)	20.2 +/- 6.7 (18.3, 22.2)	22.8 +/-16.7(17.9,27.7)			
ER0° (N.m.kg-1)	39.2 +/-7.4 (37.0,41,2)	39.5 +/- 7.0 (37.4,41.5)	9.8 +/-8.2 (7.4,12.3)			
ER50°(N.m.kg-1)	40.4 +/-7.0 (38.4,42,5)	40.1 +/- 7.0 (38.0,42.1)	8.3 +/-5.8 (6.6,10.0)			
IR Peak Torque (N.m.kg-1)	58.7 +/- 11.0 (55.5,61.9)	59.1 +/- 13.7 (55.1,63.2)	9.8 +/- 7.4 (7.6,12.0)			
IR80° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	48.1 +/- 9.6 (45.3,50.9)	48.5 +/- 11.7 (45.0,51.9)	12.6 +/-8.4 (10.2,15.1)			
IR0° (N.m.kg-1)	51.3 +/- 10.0 (48.3,54.2)	51.1 +/- 10.0 (47.6,54.6)	10.2 +/-8.8 (7.6,12.8)			
IR50° (N.m.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	39.7 +/- 9.2 (37.0,42.4)	41.4 +/-10.3 (38.2,44.3)	12.2 +/-11.6 (8.8,15.6)			

*ER*, external rotation; *IR*, internal rotation; *ER0*°, *ER* torque at joint angle; *ER50*°, *ER* torque at the internally rotated position of 50°; *ER80*°, *ER* torque at the externally rotated position of 80°; *IR0*°, *IR* torque at joint angle 0°; *IR50*°, *IR* torque at the internally rotated position of 50°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the externally rotated position of 50°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the externally rotated position of 80°; *IR0*°, *IR* torque at joint angle 0°; *IR50*°, *IR* torque at the externally rotated position of 50°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position position of 80°; *IR80*°, *IR* torque at the external position positin posi

Mean +/-Standard Deviation (n=47)								
ER:IR Peak Torque		ER:IR	R 80° ER ER:IR 0°			ER:IR 50° IR		
D	ND	D	ND	D	ND	D	ND	
0.77 +/-0.12	0.78 +/-0.13	0.48 +/-0.14	0.43 +/- 0.15	0.78 +/-0.14	0.79 +/-0.13	1.07 +/-0.36	1.01 +/-0.21	

 Table 4 Isokinetic concentric external: internal rotation strength ratio

# FIGURES:

**Figure 1** Setup for isokinetic shoulder internal and external rotation using an isokinetic dynamometer

(new picture)



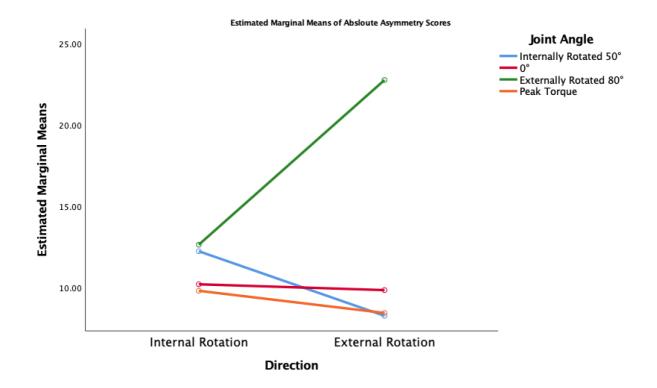


Figure 2 Profile plot for interaction effect between direction and joint angles