

Your Clinic  
Name Here

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

## Feline Acute Pain Scale

Rescore when awake

- Animal is sleeping, but can be aroused - Not evaluated for pain
- Animal can't be aroused, check vital signs, assess therapy

Pain Score

Example

Psychological & Behavioral

Response to Palpation

Body Tension

**0**

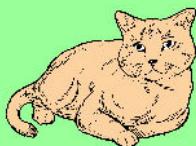


- Content and quiet when unattended
- Comfortable when resting
- Interested in or curious about surroundings

- Not bothered by palpation of wound or surgery site, or to palpation elsewhere

Minimal

**1**



- Signs are often subtle and not easily detected in the hospital setting; more likely to be detected by the owner(s) at home
- Earliest signs at home may be withdrawal from surroundings or change in normal routine
- In the hospital, may be content or slightly unsettled
- Less interested in surroundings but will look around to see what is going on

- May or may not react to palpation of wound or surgery site

Mild

**2**



- Decreased responsiveness, seeks solitude
- Quiet, loss of brightness in eyes
- Lays curled up or sits tucked up (all four feet under body, shoulders hunched, head held slightly lower than shoulders, tail curled tightly around body) with eyes partially or mostly closed
- Hair coat appears rough or fluffed up
- May intensively groom an area that is painful or irritating
- Decreased appetite, not interested in food

- Responds aggressively or tries to escape if painful area is palpated or approached
- Tolerates attention, may even perk up when petted as long as painful area is avoided

Mild to Moderate  
Reassess analgesic plan

**3**



- Constantly yowling, growling, or hissing when unattended
- May bite or chew at wound, but unlikely to move if left alone

- Growls or hisses at non-painful palpation (may be experiencing allodynia, wind-up, or fearful that pain could be made worse)
- Reacts aggressively to palpation, adamantly pulls away to avoid any contact

Moderate  
Reassess analgesic plan

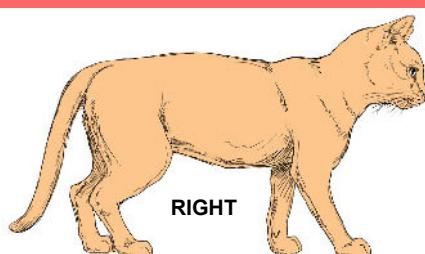
**4**



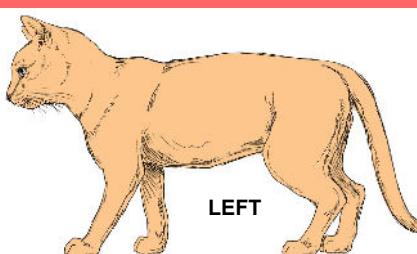
- Prostrate
- Potentially unresponsive to or unaware of surroundings, difficult to distract from pain
- Receptive to care (even aggressive or feral cats will be more tolerant of contact)

- May not respond to palpation
- May be rigid to avoid painful movement

Moderate to Severe  
May be rigid to avoid painful movement  
Reassess analgesic plan



- Tender to palpation
- Warm
- Tense



Comments \_\_\_\_\_