# Feline Acute Pain Scale

**Date** ________________  
**Time** ________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pain Score</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Psychological &amp; Behavioral</th>
<th>Response to Palpation</th>
<th>Body Tension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 0          | ![Cat](image1) | - 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          | ![Cat](image2) | - 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          | ![Cat](image3) | - 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          | ![Cat](image4) | - Constantly yowling, growling, or hissing when unattended  
- May bite or chew at wound, but unlikely to move if left alone  
- 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) | Growls or hisses at non-painful palpation (may be experiencing allostynia, wind-up, or fearful that pain could be made worse)  
Injection site may be red or warm if painful area is palpated  
Reacts aggressively to palpation, adamantly pulls away to avoid any contact | Moderate  
**Reassess analgesic plan** |
| 4          | ![Cat](image5) | - May not respond to palpation  
- May be rigid to avoid painful movement | May not respond to palpation  
- May be rigid to avoid painful movement  
- 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) | Moderate to Severe  
**Reassess analgesic plan** |

**Comments** ________________________________________________________

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