# Feline Acute Pain Scale

<table>
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<th>Pain Score</th>
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<th>Psychological &amp; Behavioral</th>
<th>Response to Palpation</th>
<th>Body Tension</th>
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| 0          | ![Cat Image](Image) |  □ 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 Image](Image) | □ 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 Image](Image) | □ 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 Image](Image) | □ 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          | ![Cat Image](Image) | □ 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 |

**Comments**

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