

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



- Comfortable when resting
- Happy, content
- Not bothering wound or surgery site
- Interested in or curious about surroundings

- Nontender to palpation of wound or surgery site, or to palpation elsewhere

Minimal

1



- Content to slightly unsettled or restless
- Distracted easily by surroundings

- Reacts to palpation of wound, surgery site, or other body part by looking around, flinching, or whimpering

Mild

2



- Looks uncomfortable when resting
- May whimper or cry and may lick or rub wound or surgery site when unattended
- Droopy ears, worried facial expression (arched eye brows, darting eyes)
- Reluctant to respond when beckoned
- Not eager to interact with people or surroundings but will look around to see what is going on

- Flinches, whimpers cries, or guards/pulls away

Mild to Moderate  
Reassess analgesic plan

3



- Unsettled, crying, groaning, biting or chewing wound when unattended
- Guards or protects wound or surgery site by altering weight distribution (i.e., limping, shifting body position)
- May be unwilling to move all or part of body

- May be subtle (shifting eyes or increased respiratory rate) if dog is too painful to move or is stoic
- May be dramatic, such as a sharp cry, growl, bite or bite threat, and/or pulling away

Moderate  
Reassess analgesic plan

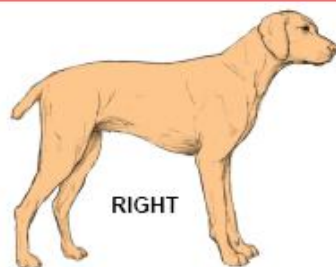
4



- Constantly groaning or screaming when unattended
- May bite or chew at wound, but unlikely to move
- Potentially unresponsive to surroundings
- Difficult to distract from pain

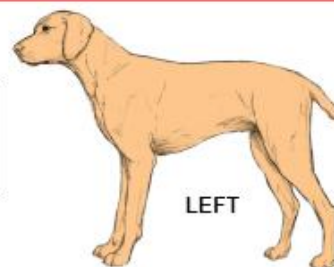
- Cries at non-painful palpation (may be experiencing allodynia, wind-up, or fearful that pain could be made worse)
- May react aggressively to palpation

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



RIGHT

- Tender to palpation
- Warm
- Tense



LEFT