

Notes for:

Assessment of acute pain
in cats using scoring
systems

key slides from the
presentation & the pain
scales



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Pain assessment is the 4th vital sign

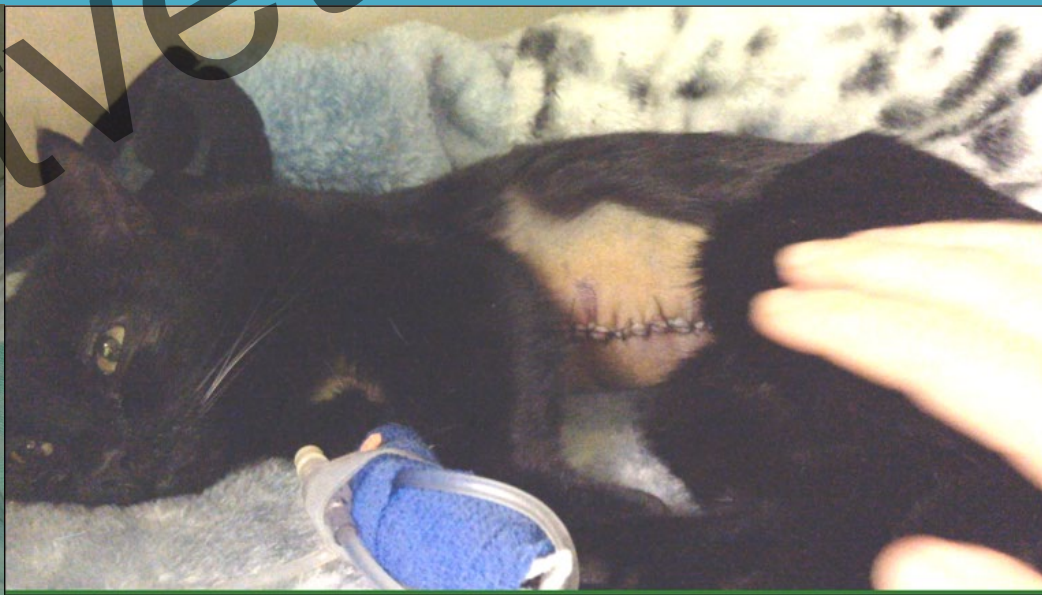
Observational

Posture, attitude, body position, facial expression, etc.



Interactive

Reaction to touch/palpation of wound or painful area





Acute pain scoring tools with **NO** validity testing in cats

01

University of Melbourne Pain Scale

02

Colorado Feline Pain Scale

03

Visual analog and numerical rating scales



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Acute pain scoring tools with validity testing in cats

01

Glasgow Composite Measure Pain Scale: Feline

02

UNESP-Botucatu multidimensional composite pain scale

03

Feline Grimace Scale



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Comparison of pain scoring tools

Glasgow

- Validated for any type of acute pain
- Easy to use
- Observation of behaviour
- Response to palpation
- Facial expression
- 7 questions

UNESP-Botucatu

- Validated for spay surgery
- Time-consuming, need training
- Observation of behaviour
- Response to palpation
- Appetite, blood pressure
- 10 questions

Feline Grimace Scale

- Validated for any type of acute pain
- Easy to use
- Facial expression
- 5 questions





There may be confounding factors...

- Individual cat personality
- Fear & stress in the hospital
- Effects of some anesthetic drugs
- Effects of some diseases
- Lack of training to use scoring tools



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FELINE GRIMACE SCALE

EN ▼

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www.felinegrimacescale.com



ASSESSMENT OF ACUTE PAIN IN CATS BASED ON CHANGES IN FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

Improving feline health and welfare

Pain is often difficult to recognize in cats due to their unique behavior. Veterinary health professionals do not always receive education on the subject making pain recognition a daily challenge in feline medicine.

The Feline Grimace Scale is a valid, fast, reliable and easy-to-use tool that can help with pain assessment. Based on the scores of the Feline Grimace Scale, it is possible to know if the administration of analgesics (i.e. pain killers) is required helping veterinarians with clinical



www.animalpain.com.br
Excellent training videos

www.wsava.org

Global Pain Council

Home > Committees > Global Pain Council

— Pain Assessment Tools

Acute Pain

Cats

 [Use of CMPS-SF](#)

 [Measuring the Acute Pain in the Cat Using CMPS-SF](#)

— Pain Management Guidelines

 [View the WSAVA Global Pain Guidelines](#)

 [WSAVA Global Pain Survey: Results](#) [WSAVA Guidelines for Recognition, Assessment and Treatment of Pain](#)

 [Guidelines: Long Term use of NSAIDS in Cats](#)

Pain management protocols


— Cesarean patients

 Cesarean patients (EN, ES, PT)


— Cancer related pain

 Cancer related pain (EN, ES, PT)

— Castration and ovariohysterectomy/ovariectomy in Cats

 Castration and ovariohysterectomy/ovariectomy in Cats (EN, ES, PT)

— Castration and ovariohysterectomy/ovariectomy in Dogs

 Castration and ovariohysterectomy/ovariectomy in Dogs (EN, ES, PT)

— Degenerative joint disease

 Degenerative joint disease (EN, ES, PT)

— Emergency and critical care

 Emergency and critical care (EN, ES, PT)

— Medical pain

 Medical pain (EN, ES)

— Neonatal and pediatric patients

 Neonatal and pediatric patients (EN, ES, PT)

— Neuropathic pain

 Neuropathic pain (EN, ES, PT)

— Orthopedic surgery

 Orthopedic surgery (EN, ES, PT)


— Pregnant or lactating patients

 Pregnant or lactating patients (EN, ES, PT)

— Soft tissue surgery

 Soft tissue surgery (EN, ES, PT)

— Perceived level of pain associated with various conditions

 Perceived level of pain associated with various conditions (EN, ES, PT)

Guidelines for the Recognition, Assessment and Treatment of Pain

 [English](#) [Polish](#) [Portuguese](#) [Japanese](#) [French](#) [Vietnamese](#) [Chinese](#)

Endorsement

 [List of Member Associations that have endorsed the Global Pain Council guidelines.](#)

Endorse the Global Pain Council guidelines.

 [Global Pain Council Endorsement request](#)

GUIDELINES FOR RECOGNITION, ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF PAIN

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SPECIAL ARTICLE

2015 AAHA/AAFP Pain Management Guidelines for Dogs and Cats



Rationale: The robust advances in pain management for companion animals underlie the decision of the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) to expand on the information provided in the 2007 AAHA/AAFP Pain Management Guidelines. The 2015 Guidelines summarize and offer a discriminating review of much of this new knowledge.

Relevance: Pain management is central to veterinary practice, alleviating pain, improving patient outcomes, and enhancing both quality of life and the veterinarian–client–patient relationship. These Guidelines support veterinarians in incorporating pain management into practice, improving patient care.



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SCAN ME



Check out the videos in the supplementary material

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Premier Review



Practical use of opioids in cats: a state-of-the-art, evidence-based review

Elisa Bortolami¹ and Emma J Love²

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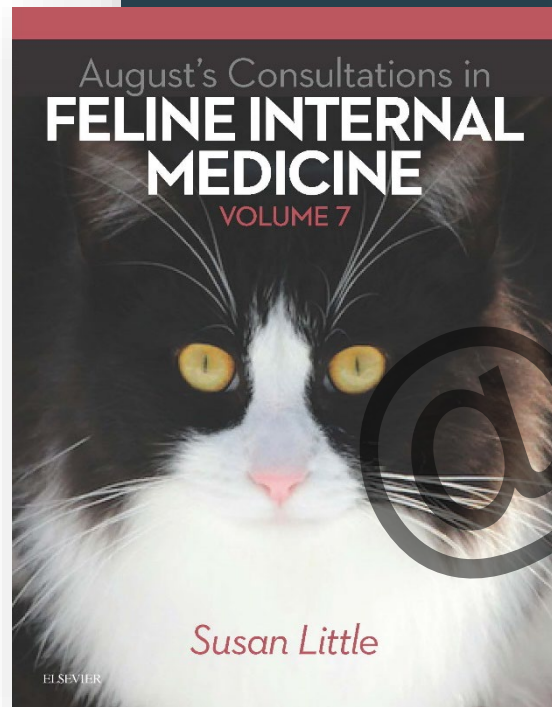
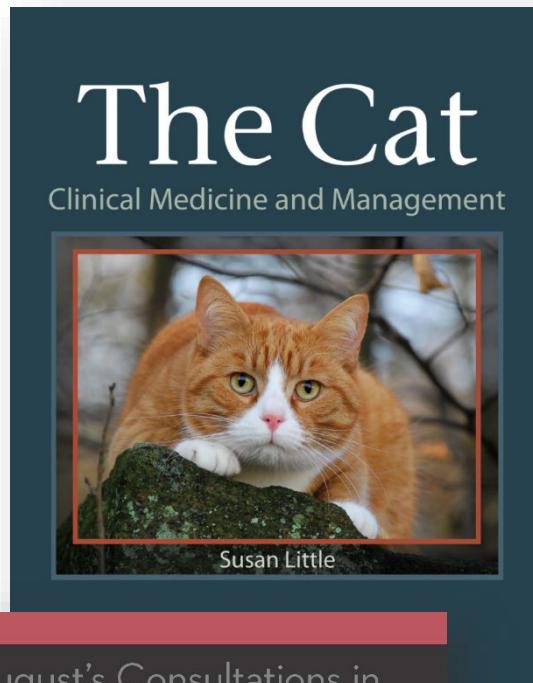


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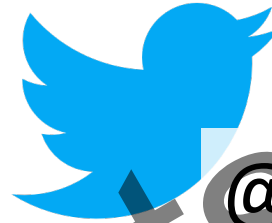


Final thoughts ...

- No cat should have to prove it is in pain before you provide analgesia.
- If the pain score is good but you think you can do better, trust yourself.
- We now have validated acute pain scoring tools – use one!



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