

# Glasgow Composite Measure Pain Scale: CMPS - Feline

## **Guidance for use**

The Glasgow Feline Composite Measure Pain Scale (CMPS-Feline), which can be applied quickly and reliably in a clinical setting, has been designed as a clinical decision making tool for use in cats in acute pain. It includes 28 descriptor options within 7 behavioral categories. Within each category, the descriptors are ranked numerically according to their associated pain severity and the person carrying out the assessment chooses the descriptor within each category which best fits the cat's behavior/condition. It is important to carry out the assessment procedure as described on the questionnaire, following the protocol closely. The pain score is the sum of the rank scores. The maximum score for the 7 categories is 20. The total CMPS-Feline score has been shown to be a useful indicator of analgesic requirement and the recommended analgesic intervention level is 5/20.

## Glasgow Feline Composite Measure Pain Scale: CMPS - Feline

Choose the most appropriate expression from each section and total the scores to calculate the pain score for the cat. If more than one expression applies choose the higher score

### LOOK AT THE CAT IN ITS CAGE:

Is it?

#### Question 1

Silent / purring / meowing	0
Crying/growling / groaning	1

#### Question 2

Relaxed	0
Licking lips	1
Restless/cowering at back of cage	2
Tense/crouched	3
Rigid/hunched	4

#### Question 3

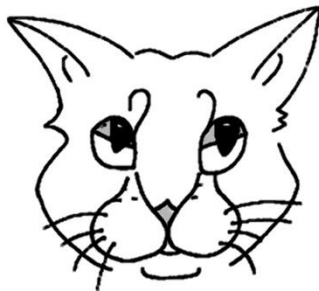
Ignoring any wound or painful area	0
Attention to wound	1

#### Question 4

- a) Look at the following caricatures. Circle the drawing which best depicts the cat's ear position?



0



1



2

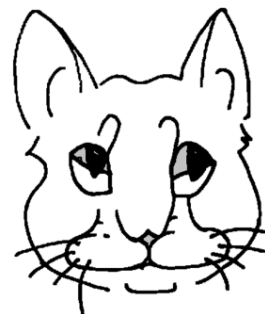
- b) Look at the shape of the muzzle in the following caricatures. Circle the drawing which appears most like that of the cat?



0



1



2

**APPROACH THE CAGE, CALL THE CAT BY NAME & STROKE ALONG ITS BACK FROM HEAD TO TAIL**

**Question 5**

Does it?

Respond to stroking	0
---------------------	---

Is it?

Unresponsive	1
--------------	---

Aggressive	2
------------	---

**IF IT HAS A WOUND OR PAINFUL AREA, APPLY GENTLE PRESSURE 5 CM AROUND THE SITE. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY PAINFUL AREA APPLY SIMILAR PRESSURE AROUND THE HIND LEG ABOVE THE KNEE**

**Question 6**

Does it?

Do nothing	0
------------	---

Swish tail/flatten ears	1
-------------------------	---

Cry/hiss	2
----------	---

Growl	3
-------	---

Bite/lash out	4
---------------	---

**Question 7**

General impression

Is the cat?

Happy and content	0
-------------------	---

Disinterested/quiet	1
---------------------	---

Anxious/fearful	2
-----------------	---

Dull	3
------	---

Depressed/grumpy	4
------------------	---

**Pain Score ... /20**

© Universities of Glasgow & Edinburgh Napier 2015. Licensed to NewMetrica Ltd. Permission granted to reproduce for personal and educational use only. To request any other permissions please contact [jacky.reid@newmetrica.com](mailto:jacky.reid@newmetrica.com).

UNESP-Botucatu Multidimensional Composite Pain Scale for assessing postoperative pain in cats.

Subscale 1: PAIN EXPRESSION (0 – 12)		
Miscellaneous behaviors	Observe and mark the presence of the behaviors listed below	
	<b>A</b> - The cat is laying down and quiet, but moving its tail	<b>A</b>
	<b>B</b> - The cat contracts and extends its pelvic limbs and/or contracts its abdominal muscles (flank)	<b>B</b>
	<b>C</b> - The cats eyes are partially closed (eyes half closed)	<b>C</b>
	<b>D</b> - The cat licks and/or bites the surgical wound	<b>D</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All above behaviors are absent</li> <li>• Presence of one of the above behaviors</li> <li>• Presence of two of the above behaviors</li> <li>• Presence of three or all of the above behaviors</li> </ul>	0 1 2 3
Reaction to palpation of the surgical wound	• The cat does not react when the surgical wound is touched or pressed; or no change from pre-surgical response (if basal evaluation was made)	0
	• The cat does not react when the surgical wound is touched, but does react when it is pressed. It may vocalize and/or try to bite	1
	• The cat reacts when the surgical wound is touched and when pressed. It may vocalize and/or try to bite	2
	• The cat reacts when the observer approaches the surgical wound. It may vocalize and/or try to bite The cat does not allow palpation of the surgical wound	3
Reaction to palpation of the abdomen/flank	• The cat does not react when the abdomen/flank is touched or pressed; or no change from pre-surgical response (if basal evaluation was made). The abdomen/flank is not tense	0
	• The cat does not react when the abdomen/flank is touched, but does react when it is pressed. The abdomen/flank is tense	1
	• The cat reacts when the abdomen/flank is touched and when pressed. The abdomen/flank is tense	2
	• The cat reacts when the observer approaches the abdomen/flank. It may vocalize and/or try to bite The cat does not allow palpation of the abdomen/flank	3
Vocalization	• The cat is quiet, purring when stimulated, or miaows interacting with the observer, but does not growl, groan, or hiss	0
	• The cat purrs spontaneously (without being stimulated or handled by the observer)	1
	• The cat growls, howls, or hisses when handled by the observer (when its body position is changed by the observer)	2
	• The cat growls, howls, hisses spontaneously (without being stimulated or handled by the observer)	3

Subscale 2: PSYCHOMOTOR CHANGE (0 – 12)		
Posture	• The cat is in a natural posture with relaxed muscles (it moves normally)	0
	• The cat is in a natural posture but is tense (it moves little or is reluctant to move)	1
	• The cat is sitting or in sternal recumbency with its back arched and head down; or The cat is in dorso-lateral recumbency with its pelvic limbs extended or contracted	2
	• The cat frequently alters its body position in an attempt to find a comfortable posture	3
Comfort	• The cat is comfortable, awake or asleep, and interacts when stimulated (it interacts with the observer and/or is interested in its surroundings)	0
	• The cat is quiet and slightly receptive when stimulated (it interacts little with the observer and/or is not very interested in its surroundings)	1
	• The cat is quiet and “dissociated from the environment” (even when stimulated it does not interact with the observer and/or has no interest in its surroundings) The cat may be facing the back of the cage	2
	• The cat is uncomfortable, restless (frequently changes its body position), and slightly receptive when stimulated or “dissociated from the environment” The cat may be facing the back of the cage	3
Activity	• The cat moves normally (it immediately moves when the cage is opened; outside the cage it moves spontaneously when stimulated or handled)	0
	• The cat moves more than normal (inside the cage it moves continuously from side to side)	1
	• The cat is quieter than normal (it may hesitate to leave the cage and if removed from the cage tends to return, outside the cage it moves a little after stimulation or handling)	2
	• The cat is reluctant to move (it may hesitate to leave the cage and if removed from the cage tends to return, outside the cage it does not move even when stimulated or handled)	3
Attitude	Observe and mark the presence of the mental states listed below	
	<b>A - Satisfied:</b> The cat is alert and interested in its surroundings (explores its surroundings), friendly and interactive with the observer (plays and/or responds to stimuli) *The cat may initially interact with the observer through games to distract it from the pain. Carefully observe to distinguish between distraction and satisfaction games	A
	<b>B - Uninterested:</b> The cat does not interact with the observer (not interested by toys or plays a little; does not respond to calls or strokes from the observer) * In cats which don't like to play, evaluate interaction with the observer by its response to calls and strokes	B
	<b>C - Indifferent:</b> The cat is not interested in its surroundings (it is not curious; it does not explore its surroundings) * The cat can initially be afraid to explore its surroundings. The observer needs to handle the cat and encourage it to move itself (take it out of the cage and/or change its body position)	C
	<b>D - Anxious:</b> The cat is frightened (it tries to hide or escape) or nervous (demonstrating impatience and growling, howling, or hissing when stroked and/or handled)	D
	<b>E - Aggressive:</b> The cat is aggressive (tries to bite or scratch when stroked or handled)	E
	• Presence of the mental state A	0
	• Presence of one of the mental states B, C, D, or E	1
	• Presence of two of the mental states B, C, D, or E	2
	• Presence of three or all of the mental states B, C, D, or E	3

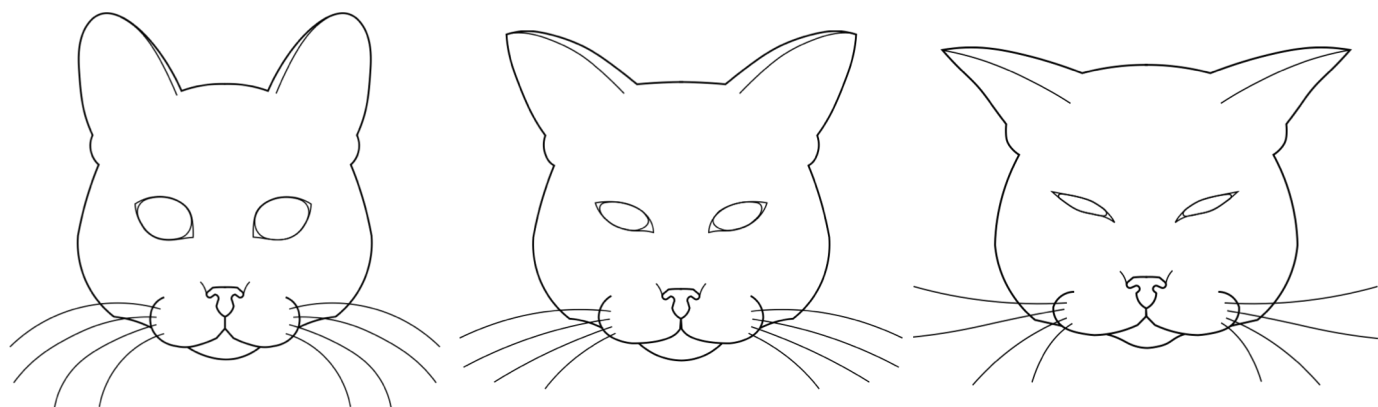
Subscale 3: PHYSIOLOGICAL VARIABLES (0 – 6)		
Arterial blood pressure	• 0% to 15% above pre-surgery value	0
	• 16% to 29% above pre-surgery value	1
	• 30% to 45% above pre-surgery value	2
	• > 45% above pre-surgery value	3
Appetite	• The cat is eating normally	0
	• The cat is eating more than normal	1
	• The cat is eating less than normal	2
	• The cat is not interested in food	3
TOTAL SCORE (0 – 30)		
<p align="center"><b>Directions for using the scale</b></p> <p>Initially observe the cat's behavior without opening the cage. Observe whether it is resting or active; interested or uninterested in its surroundings; quiet or vocal. Check for the presence of specific behaviors (see "Miscellaneous behaviors" above).</p> <p>Open the cage and observe whether the cat quickly moves out or hesitates to leave the cage. Approach the cat and evaluate its reaction: friendly, aggressive, frightened, indifferent, or vocal. Touch the cat and interact with it, check whether it is receptive (if it likes to be stroked and/or is interested in playing). If the cat hesitates to leave the cage, encourage it to move through stimuli (call it by name and stroke it) and handling (change its body position and/or take it out of the cage). Observe when outside the cage, if the cat moves spontaneously, in a reserved manner, or is reluctant to move. Offer it palatable food and observe its response.*</p> <p>Finally, place the cat in lateral or sternal recumbency and measure its arterial blood pressure. Evaluate the cat's reaction when the abdomen/flank is initially touched (slide your fingers over the area) and in the sequence gently pressed (apply direct pressure over the area). Wait for a time, and do the same procedure to assess the cat's reaction to palpation of surgical wound.</p> <p>*To evaluate appetite during the immediate postoperative period, initially offer a small quantity of palatable food immediately after recovery from anesthesia. At this moment most cats eat normally independent of the presence or absence of pain. Wait a short while, offer food again, and observe the cat's reaction.</p>		

## Facial expressions of pain in cats: the development and validation of a Feline Grimace Scale

Marina C Evangelista, Ryota Watanabe, Vivian SY Leung, Beatriz Monteiro, Elizabeth O'Toole, Daniel SJ Pang, Paulo V Steagall

### TRAINING MANUAL

## FELINE GRIMACE SCALE



### Instructions for using the scale

Rate each action unit from 0 to 2:

0 = action unit is absent

1 = moderate appearance of the action unit, or uncertainty over its presence or absence

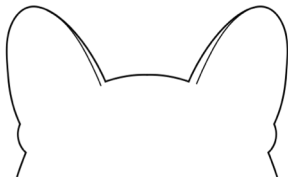
2 = obvious appearance of the action unit

If the action unit is not visible, please mark the option “not possible to score”

## Ear position



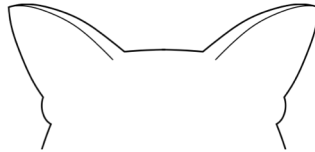
0 = absent



Ears facing forward



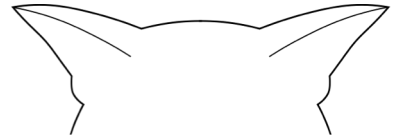
1 = moderately present



Ears slightly pulled apart



2 = markedly present

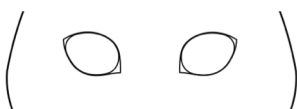


Ears rotated outwards

## Orbital tightening



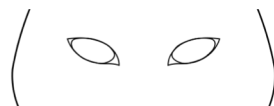
0 = absent



Eyes opened



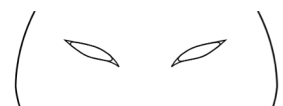
1 = moderately present



Partially closed eyes



2 = markedly present



Squinted eyes

Muzzle tension



0 = absent



Relaxed (round shape)



1 = moderately present



Mild tension



2 = markedly present



Tense (elliptical shape)

Whiskers change



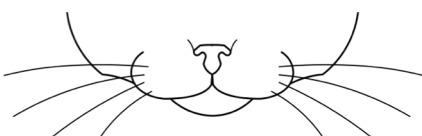
0 = absent



Loose (relaxed) and curved



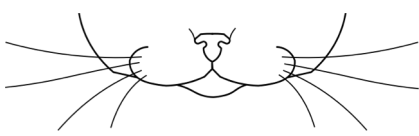
1 = moderately present



Slightly curved or straight  
(closer together)

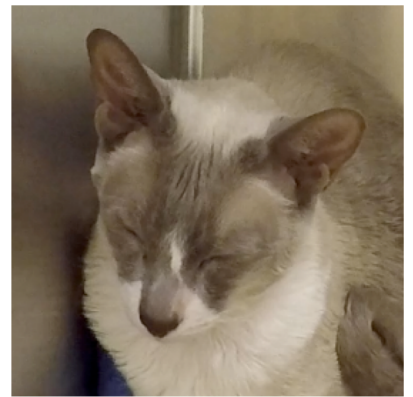


2 = markedly present



Straight and moving forward  
(rostrally, away from the face)

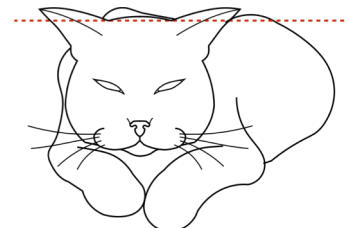
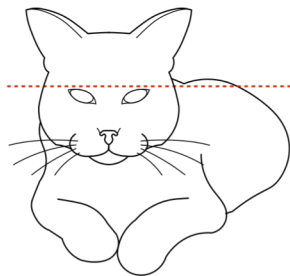
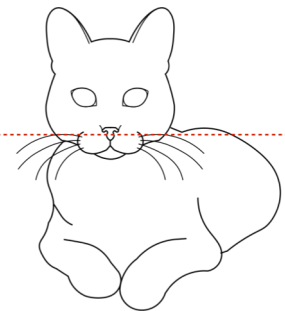
## Head position



0 = absent

1 = moderately present

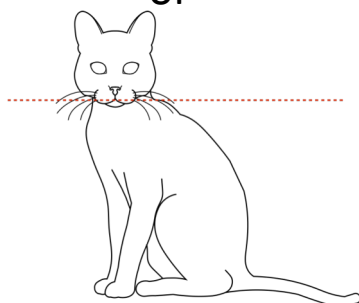
2 = markedly present



or

Head aligned with  
the shoulder line

or



Head above the  
shoulder line

Head below the shoulder  
line or tilted down (chin  
toward the chest)