## Canine ACUTE PAIN SCALE



Pain Score Example Psychological & Behavioral Response to Palpation **Body Tension** No Animal is sleeping and cannot be evaluated **Score** ☐ Comfortable when resting ■ Nontender to palpation of Happy, content wound or surgery site, or to Minimal ☐ Not bothering wound or surgery site palpation elsewhere ☐ Interested in or curious about surroundings ☐ Reacts to palpation of wound, ☐ Content to slightly unsettled or restless surgery site, or other body part Mild ☐ Distracted easily by surroundings by looking around, flinching, or whimpering Looks uncomfortable when resting. ☐ May whimper or cry and may lick or rub wound or surgery site when unattended Mild to Moderate Droopy ears, worried facial expression 2 (arched eye brows, darting eyes) ☐ Flinches, whimpers cries, or Reassess Reluctant to respond when beckoned guards/pulls away analgesic plan Not eager to interact with people or surroundings but will look around to see what is going on Unsettled, crying, groaning, biting or ☐ May be **subtle** (shifting eyes or chewing wound when unattended increased respiratory rate) if dog Moderate 3 Guards or protects wound or surgery site by is too painful to move or is stoic altering weight distribution (i.e., limping, ■ May be dramatic, such as a Reassess shifting body position) sharp cry, growl, bite or bite analgesic plan ■ May be unwilling to move all or part of body threat, and/or pulling away Moderate to Cries at non-painful palpation Severe ☐ Constantly groaning or screaming when (may be experiencing allodynia, unattended May be rigid to wind-up, or fearful that pain avoid painful May bite or chew at wound, but unlikely to could be made worse) movement move ■ May react aggressively to ■ Potentially unresponsive to surroundings palpation Reassess ☐ Difficult to distract from pain analgesic plan Tender to palpation Warm Tense **RIGHT LEFT** 

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