

BEAP Pain Scale for Dogs

Many signs of chronic pain are non-specific. Please see your family vet to rule out other possible causes of these symptoms.

<p>0 No pain</p>		<p>B: Breathes normally E: Eyes bright and alert A: Walks normally on all four legs; no lameness present A: Engages in play and all normal activities</p>	<p>A: Eats and drinks as normal A: Happy; interested in surroundings and playing; seeks attention P: Comfortable at rest and during play; perky ears and wagging tail P: Enjoys being touched and petted; no body tension present</p>
<p>1-2 Mild pain</p>		<p>B: Breathes normally E: Eyes bright and alert A: Walks normally; may exhibit very subtle lameness when walking A: May be very slightly slower to lie down or rise</p>	<p>A: Eats and drinks as normal A: Generally remains happy and interested in surroundings P: Tail may be down more often; ears up; whiskers generally relaxed P: Enjoys being touched, petted and brushed; no body tension present</p>
<p>3-4 Moderate pain</p>		<p>B: May pant intermittently E: Eyes slightly duller in appearance; can have a slightly furrowed brow A: Noticeably slower to lie down or rise; may exhibit lameness when walking A: May be slightly unsettled and more restless; difficulty getting comfortable; shifting weight</p>	<p>A: Appetite more finicky, such as wanting only treats or "people" food A: Subdued; engages less or does not initiate play P: Difficulty squatting or lifting leg to urinate; subtle changes in posture; tail more tucked and ears more flattened P: Does not mind touch except on painful area; turns head to look where touched; mild body tension</p>
<p>5-6 Moderate to severe pain</p>		<p>B: Pants often, possibly with labored breathing E: Dull eyes; worried look A: Very slow to rise and lie down; hesitation with movement; difficulty on stairs; reluctant to come when called; more obvious lameness A: Not eager to interact but may be in tune with surroundings; obvious lameness when walking; may lick painful area</p>	<p>A: Frequently loses appetite A: Anxious or restless; unable to settle or sleep well P: Abnormal weight distribution when standing; difficulty posturing to eliminate; arched back, tucked belly, head hanging low; tucked tail; frequently shifting positions; ears more flattened P: Guards painful area when touched; moderate body tension when being touched</p>
<p>7-8 Severe pain</p>		<p>B: Faster breathing rate with more noticeable effort; frequent panting episodes E: Dull eyes, may also have distressed look A: Obvious difficulty rising or lying down; will not bear weight on affected leg; avoids stairs; obvious lameness A: Avoids all interaction; will "go off" and hide, often in new places; stops grooming; frequently licks or chews at painful area, sometimes to the point of fur loss</p>	<p>A: Loss of appetite; may not want to drink A: Agitated, fearful, worried, reclusive; potentially aggressive P: Tail tucked, ears flattened or pinned back; abnormal posture when standing; more hesitant to move or stand P: Significant body tension when painful area touched; may vocalize in pain; guards painful area by pulling away or changing position</p>
<p>9-10 Worst pain possible</p>		<p>B: Panting; increased breathing rate and effort E: Dull eyes; may have panicked look A: May refuse to get up; may not be able to (or willing to) take more than a few steps; will not bear weight on painful limb A: Difficulty distracting from pain, even with gentle touch or soothing voice</p>	<p>A: No interest in food or water A: Extremely depressed or minimally responsive ("flat out"); may vocalize in pain; in distress at rest P: Prefers lying position or being on side; flat or pinned ears; may prefer to be very tucked or stretched out P: Severe body tension when touched; will not tolerate touch of painful area; becomes fearful when non-painful areas are touched</p>

Specific behaviors or physical changes I see:

Breathing: _____

Appetite: _____

Eyes: _____

Attitude: _____

Ambulation: _____

Posture: _____

Activity: _____

Palpation: _____