Pain Intensity Rating Scale (used by providers at Dartmouth-Hitchcock)















Behavioral Pain Assessment Scale

For patients unable to provide a self-report of pain. Scored 0-10 Clinical Observations.

FACE	0	1	2	Face Score
	Facial muscle relaxed	Facial muscle tension, Frown, grimace	Frequent to constant frown, clenched jaw	
RESTLESSNESS	0	1	2	Restless Score
	Quiet, relaxed appearance, normal movement	Occasional restless movement, shifting	Frequent restless movement may include extremities or head	
MUSCLE TONE*	0	1	2	Muscle Tone Score
	Normal muscle tone, Relaxed	Increased tone, flexion of fingers and toes	Rigid tone	
VOCALIZATION**	0 No abnormal sounds	1 Occasional moans, cries, whimpers or grunts	2 Frequent or continuous moans, cries, whimpers or grunts	Vocalization Score
CONSOLABILITY	0 Content, relaxed	1 Reassured by touch or talk Distractible	2 Difficult to comfort by touch or talk	Consolability Score
BEHAVIORAL PAIN ASSESSMENT SCALE TOTAL (0-10)				/10

^{*}Assess muscle tone in patients with spinal cord lesion or injury at a level above the lesion or injury. Assess patients with hemiplegia on the unaffected side. **These items cannot be measured in patients with artificial airways.

How to use the Pain Assessment Behavioral Scale:

Observe behaviors and mark appropriate number for each category

Total the numbers in the Pain Assessment Behavioral Score column

Zero = no evidence of pain. Mild pain = 1-3 Moderate pain = 4-5 Severe uncontrolled pain is \geq 6. Considerations:

Use the standard Pain Scale whenever possible to obtain the patient's self-report of pain. Self-report is the best indicator of the presence and intensity of pain.

Use this scale for patients who are unable to provide a self-report of pain.

In addition, a "Proxy pain evaluation" from family, friends, or clinicians close to the patient may be helpful to evaluate pain based on previous knowledge of patient response.

When in doubt, provide an analgesic. "If there is reason to suspect pain, an analgesic trial can be diagnostic as well as therapeutic." (AHCPR) Acute Pain Management Guidelines Panel 1992b., p.41

