General Animal Humane Endpoint Template

**Health conditions that require veterinary care may necessitate the removal of the animal from the study or teaching use. A similar statement should be included in the IACUC protocol.**

NOTE: THE LIST OF OBSERVATIONS IS NOT COMPLETE. OTHER OBSERVATIONS CAN APPEAR. **A TOTAL SCORE OF 4 IS HUMANE ENDPOINT CRITERIA.** Any changes to template must be in **bold** font.

| **Assessment parameter** | **Score** | **EXAMPLES of observations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 0 | Bright, alert, and responsive (BAR) to the surroundings |
| General condition (mentation) | 1 | Quiet, alert, and responsive (QAR) to the surroundings |
|  | 4 | Obtunded, stuporous, or comatose |
| Movements, body posture and body form | 0 | Normal movements, body posture and body form |
| 1 | Mild incoordination, limping or muscle weakness, slightly hunched |
| 4 | Marked incoordination, severe head tilt, severe limping, paralysis, inability to stand |
| Behavior\*(Fear, Anxiety, & Stress (FAS) Scale) | 0 | Relaxed body language and interested in interacting with handlers. May exhibit lip licking, panting with relaxed lips, and/or avoiding eye contact. |
| 1 | Hesitant when interacting with handlers. Ears may be back, down, or to the side; tail down; furrowed brow and/or panting with tighter lips.  |
| 4 | Intolerance of procedures.**Non-aggressive signs**: actively moving away from and/or unwillingness to interact with handlers. Immobility, escape behavior, and/or excessive panting. **Aggressive signs**: growling, lunging, snarling, and/or snapping.  |

\* ‘Fear, Anxiety, and Stress (FAS) Scale’, Fear Free, <https://fearfreepets.com/emotional-medical-record-and-fas-scale/> [accessed: January 9, 2023]

| **Assessment parameter** | **Score** | **EXAMPLES of observations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Body condition score (BCS)\*\* and bodyweight | 0 | Well-conditioned or over-conditioned (BCS 3-8), weight loss < 5 % compared to weight prior to procedure, controls, or normal growth curve |
| 1 | Underconditioned (ribs, lumbar vertebrae, and pelvic bones easily visible; no palpable fat) or obese (ribs, lumbar area, base of tail has heavy fat cover and difficult to palpate; waist absent and no abdominal tuck); weight loss 5-20 % compared to weight prior to procedure, controls, or normal growth curve |
| 4 | Severely underconditioned (all bony prominences evident from a distance; no fat cover), weight loss > 20 % compared to weight prior to procedure, controls, or normal growth curve |
| Muscle condition score\*\*\* | 0 | Normal condition (palpable and/or visual) along the spine, skull, and both scapulas and wings of the ilia |
| 1 | Mild muscle loss (palpable and/or visual) along the spine, skull, and both scapulas and wings of the ilia |
| 4 | Moderate to Severe muscle loss (palpable and/or visual) along the spine, skull, and both scapulas and wings of the ilia |
| Level of dehydration | 0 | Supple, elastic skin |
| 1 | When pinching the skin, elasticity is mildly reduced (slow return to normal) |
| 4 | When pinching the skin, it tents (skin fold remains), sunken eyes, not resolved with supplemental fluids for 24hr |

\*\* ‘Body Condition System’, Purina Institute, <https://www.purinainstitute.com/sites/default/files/2021-04/body-condition-system-dog.pdf> [accessed: January 10, 2023]

\*\*\* ‘Muscle Condition Score Chart for Dogs’, WSAVA Global Nutrition Committee, <https://wsava.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Muscle-Condition-Score-Chart-for-Dogs.pdf> [accessed: January 6, 2023]

| **Assessment parameter** | **Score** | **EXAMPLES of observations** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Urinary function | 0 | Normal intestinal and urinary functions |
| 1 | Excess urination; dribbling urine.  |
| 4 | Incapability to urinate and markedly distended urinary bladder or severe urinary incontinence.  |
| Acute Pain\*\*\*\* | 0 | Comfortable to slightly unsettled when resting; interested or curious about to easily distrcted by surroundings; nontender to reacts (looking around, flinching, or whimpering) to palpation of wound, surgery site or other body part  |
| 1 | Looks uncomfortable and may whimper or cry, looks worried with or without droopy ears to unsettled, crying, or groaning; reluctant to respond to unwilling to move when beckoned; less interest in interacting with surroundings; flinches, whimpers, pulls away to shifting eyes or increased respiratory rate or sharp cry, growing, bite or threatening to bit when palpated; grinding teeth |
| 4 | Constantly groaning or screaming; potentially unresponsive to surroundings; difficult to distract from pain; cries at or reacts aggressively to non-painful palpation |
| Other study-specific parameters (describe and add more boxes as needed) | 0 |  |
| 1 |  |
| 4 |  |

\*\*\*\* ’Canine Pain Scale’, Colorado State University, <https://vetmedbiosci.colostate.edu/vth/services/anesthesia/animal-pain-scales/> [accessed: January 6, 2023]