Colorado State University Veterinary Medical Center Canine Acute Pain Scale		Date		
	Rescore when awake	 ☐ Animal is sleeping, but can be aroused - Not ev ☐ Animal can't be aroused, check vital signs, ass 		
Pain Score	Example	Psychological & Behavioral	Response to Palpation	Body Tension
0 —		 Comfortable when resting Happy, content Not bothering wound or surgery site Interested in or curious about surroundings 	☐ Nontender to palpation of wound or surgery site, or to palpation elsewhere	Minimal
1 + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +		Content to slightly unsettled or restless Distracted easily by surroundings	Reacts to palpation of wound, surgery site, or other body part by looking around, flinching, or whimpering	Mild
2 + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +		 Looks uncomfortable when resting May whimper or cry and may lick or rub wound or surgery site when unattended Droopy ears, worried facial expression (arched eye brows, darting eyes) Reluctant to respond when beckoned Not eager to interact with people or surroundings but will look around to see what is going on 	☐ Flinches, whimpers cries, or guards/pulls away	Mild to Moderate Reassess analgesic plan
3 + +		 Unsettled, crying, groaning, biting or chewing wound when unattended Guards or protects wound or surgery site by altering weight distribution (i.e., limping, shifting body position) May be unwilling to move all or part of body 	 May be subtle (shifting eyes or increased respiratory rate) if dog is too painful to move or is stoic May be dramatic, such as a sharp cry, growl, bite or bite threat, and/or pulling away 	Moderate Reassess analgesic plan
4 —		 Constantly groaning or screaming when unattended May bite or chew at wound, but unlikely to move Potentially unresponsive to surroundings Difficult to distract from pain 	 Cries at non-painful palpation (may be experiencing allodynia, wind-up, or fearful that pain could be made worse) May react aggressively to palpation 	Moderate to Severe May be rigid to avoid painful movement Reassess analgesic plan
Comments _		C Tender to palpation X Warm ■ Tense	LEFT	