

Faces Pain Scale—Revised (FPS-R)

Instructions:

“The faces show how much pain or discomfort someone is feeling. The face on the left shows no pain. Each face shows more and more pain and the last face shows the worst pain possible. Point to the face that shows how bad your pain is right NOW.”

Scoring: The score the chosen face as 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 or 10, counting left to right so 0= “no pain” and 10= “worst pain possible”

Used with permission from IASP; this figure may not be used or modified without express written consent.



Faces Pain Scale- Revised (FPS-R)

Purpose: To assess pain intensity in individuals who are able to self report¹, but unable to use a numeric rating scale (NRS). Some studies show African Americans and Asians prefer the Faces Pain Scale.

When to Use:

- 1) At admission
- 2) At each quarterly nursing review
- 3) Each shift in an individual with pain
- 4) Each time a change in individual's pain status is reported
- 5) Following a pain intervention to evaluate treatment effectiveness

How to Use: Instruct the individual that "The faces show how much pain or discomfort one is feeling. The face on the left shows no pain. Each face shows more and more pain up to the last face that shows the worst pain possible. Point to the face that shows how bad your pain is right NOW."

Then score the chosen face 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10, counting left to right, so '0' = 'no pain' and '10' = 'very much pain.'

NOTE: This tool is not to be used by the health care provider to look at the resident's facial expression and pick a face.

Documentation: Document/record all scores in a location that is readily accessible to others on the health care team.

Note: To use as a pocket guide, print the FPS-R and directions document front to back on card stock paper to create two tools. Cut to size and laminate for increased durability.

Reference: Hicks, C, L., von Baeyer, C.L., Spafford, P.A., van Korlaar., & Goodenough, B., (2001). The Faces Pain Scale—revised toward a common metric in pediatric pain measurement, *Pain* 93 (2001); 173–183.

¹ Self-report of pain is defined as the ability to indicate presence and/or severity of pain verbally, in writing, or by other means such as finger span, pointing, head movement, or blinking eyes to answer yes or no questions.