

# Adult Non-Verbal Pain Scale (NVPS)

Categories	0	1	2
Face	No particular expression or smile.	Occasional grimace, tearing, frowning, wrinkled forehead.	Frequent grimace, tearing, frowning, wrinkled forehead.
Activity (movement)	Lying quietly, normal position.	Seeking attention through movement or slow, cautious movement.	Restless, excessive activity and/or withdrawal reflexes.
Guarding	Lying quietly, no positioning of hands over areas of body.	Splinting areas of the body, tense.	Rigid, stiff.
Physiology (vital signs)	Stable vital signs	Change in any of the following: * SBP > 20 mm Hg. * HR > 20/minute.	Change in any of the following: * SBP > 30 mm Hg. * HR > 25/minute.
Respiratory	Baseline RR/SpO <sub>2</sub> Compliant with ventilator	RR > 10 above baseline, or 5% ↓ SpO <sub>2</sub> mild asynchrony with ventilator	RR > 20 above baseline, or 10% ↓ SpO <sub>2</sub> severe asynchrony with ventilator