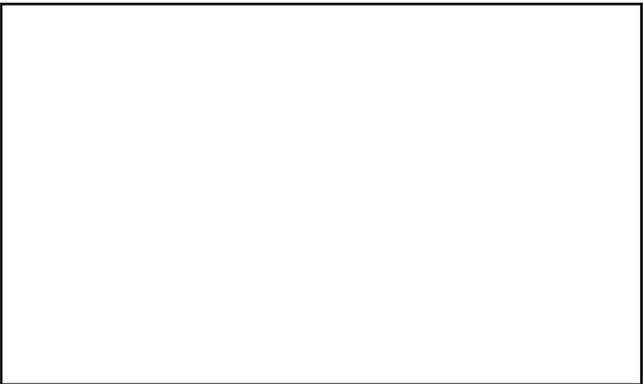




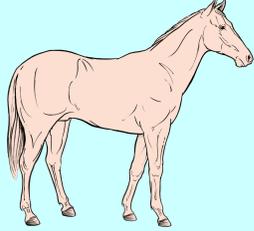
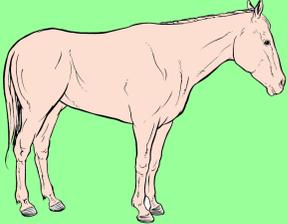
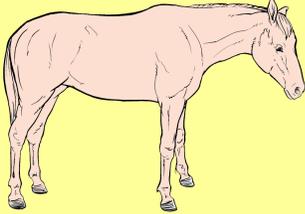
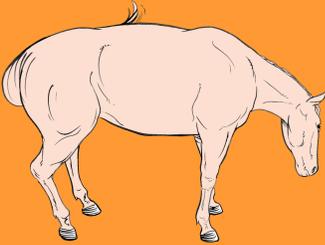
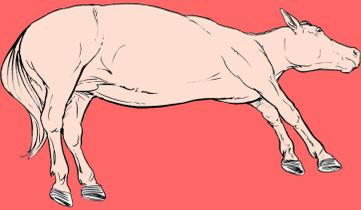
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_



### Equine Comfort Assessment Scale

\*This scale is designed to be used in the context of the clinical presentation of each animal. If you do not believe the pain scoring criteria to be accurate for this patient, please explain in the comments section below.

Pain Score	Behavior	Clinical Assessment	Postural Features
0	 <p>Responds with interest to gate opening, approach by observer Takes care in movements around people Head above withers Attentive Moving freely, calmly Resting comfortably</p>	<p>HR: _____ (usually <math>\leq 40</math> bpm) Eyes: relaxed, normally responsive Normal muscle tension No focal areas of heat Not averse to palpation</p>	<p>No lameness perceptible, bears weight equally Moves with ease of stride</p>
1	 <p>Head at or above withers Facing forward and watching Performs normal behaviors less frequently than expected Responds with quiet interest to gate opening, approach by observer Takes care in movements around people</p>	<p>HR: _____ (may be <math>\leq 40</math> bpm) Mild muscle tension Mild focal areas of heat Slightly steps, leans or pulls away from palpation, +/- muscle twitching</p>	<p>Lameness difficult to observe, inconsistently apparent Mild injury or stiffness in movement</p>
2	 <p>Head level with withers Moving slowly about with bedding undisturbed Mild but more frequent restlessness Responds to approach Less enthusiastic, less interested, less interactive Less careful about movements around people</p>	<p>HR: _____ (may be <math>\geq 48</math> bpm) Tachypnea +/- RR: _____ Moderate muscle tension Increasing areas of heat More averse to palpation</p>	<p>Lameness apparent only under certain circumstances, favors leg(s) occasionally Obvious stiffness in movement</p>
3	 <p>Head level or below withers May face back or corner of stall More vigorous signs of restlessness Eyes distracted, far away, weary Minimally reacts to interaction Stands in one position Beginning to become internalized Less careful about movements around people</p>	<p>HR: _____ (may be <math>\geq 60</math> bpm) Tachypnea +/- RR: _____ Sweating Severe muscle tension Widespread areas of heat Vigorously averse response to palpation</p>	<p>Moderate lameness, able to bear weight but clearly favors one or more limbs Obvious discomfort, weight shifting Arched back Very stiff movements Abnormal standing posture</p>
4	 <p>Head often below withers Stands in corner or faces wall Ears back, eyes weary Frequent signs of severe agitation Extremely uncomfortable, panicky OR Extremely internalized/withdrawn Unwilling to rise Careless about movements around people</p>	<p>HR: _____ (may be <math>\geq 70</math> bpm) Tachypnea +/- RR: _____ Profuse sweating Extreme muscle tension / rigidity +/- fasciculation Widespread areas of heat Extremely averse to palpation possibly aggressive</p>	<p>Unable or unwilling to bear weight May not be able to move Constant shifting of weight Very abnormal standing posture OR In sternal or lateral recumbency</p>

Current Pain Treatment(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Equine Comfort Assessment Scale List of Behavioral Descriptors

### General

- Pawing
- Stamping
- Tail switching w/o insects or other stimulus
- Circling in stall
- Flaring nostrils frequently
- Frequent head shaking w/o obvious reason
- Repetitive behaviors:  
Examples can include rubbing, pacing
- Getting up and laying down frequently
- Rocking to and fro on limbs
- Grunting
- Difficult to get settled down

### Musculoskeletal-specific

- Frequent weight shifting
- Rocking to and fro on limbs
- "Grimacing" (assoc. w/ laminitis)
- Stamping
- Frequent weight shifting

### Abdomen-specific

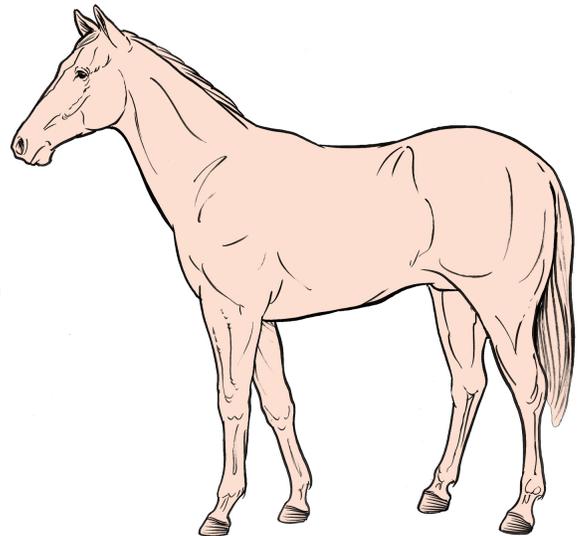
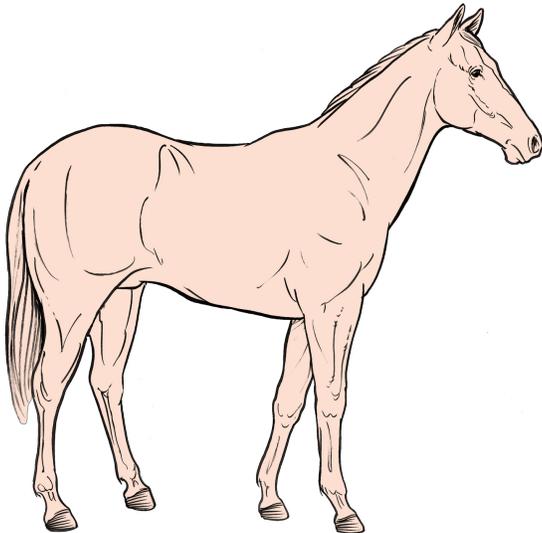
- Rolling on ground
- Pawing
- Flank watching
- Flank biting
- Teeth grinding
- Kicking at abdomen
- Grunting
- Thrashing

### Palpation Reactions

Averse reaction to palpation may manifest as:

- Splinting
- Muscle twitching
- Biting
- Striking
- Kicking
- Hyperalgesia

## Location of Palpation Abnormalities



Please mark:

- Tender to palpation
- ✕ Warm
- Tense

## Facial Expressions

0

1

2

3

4

