



How to use this guide...

"Pain is what the person experiencing person says it is, existing whenever he says it does"

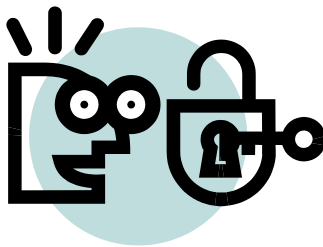
Pain: Clinical Manual by M. McCaffery & C. Pasero, 1999

The Pain Society's Pain Intensity Scale/ Tool has been translated into 21 languages for use in all settings where there is a language barrier, and pain is being assessed. Please note the intensity scale will inform the assessor of the presence of pain, and the impact on quality of life it is having at the present with a comparison to past. It does not replace a pain assessment tool, but is only meant to determine the presence of pain when language barriers are present.

How to use the tool:

Keeping the principle of pain reported by the patient exists as the patient reports that pain, this tool must be completed by the patient and or family:

1. Photocopy the tool in the language required, and in English on the reverse side of the page.
2. For validity in your assessment, this tool must be completed by the patient. In those cases where the patient cannot complete the tool due to cognitive or physical constraints, the caregiver or family should complete. Only in the absence of those persons to complete this tool should the health care provider complete this tool
3. The English copy of the tool should accompany the translated tool with documentation records to serve as translation to the team reviewing the report.



How to interpret the reporting of pain by the patient and family:

1. Pain is to be believed and based on the reporting of the patient/ family.
2. If pain is reported, further assessment of the pain will be required, and are beyond the scope of this tool. An interpreter may be required to do a complete pain assessment.
3. Pain ratings of 4 and above require interventions for pain management.
NB: This is not a pain assessment tool, and thus further assessment is required to determine the cause and type of pain.

Recognition is given to The Pain Society and the Kitchener Waterloo Multicultural Society for the translations of this tool.

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