

Pain Scale, Description	Instructions	Recommended Comments
Wong-Baker FACES Pain Rating Scale*		
Consists of six cartoon faces ranging from smiling face for “no pain” to tearful face for “worst pain”	<p><i>Original instructions:</i> Explain to child that each face is for a person who feels happy because there is no pain (hurt) or sad because there is some or a lot of pain. FACE 0 is very happy because there is no hurt. FACE 1 hurts just a little bit. FACE 2 hurts a little more. FACE 3 hurts even more. FACE 4 hurts a whole lot, but FACE 5 hurts as much as you can imagine, although you don't have to be crying to feel this bad. Ask child to choose face that best describes own pain. Record number under chosen face on pain assessment record.</p> <p><i>Brief word instructions:</i> Point to each face using the words to describe the pain intensity. Ask child to choose face that best describes own pain, and record appropriate number.</p>	<p>For children as young as 3 years old. Using original instructions with affect words, such as happy or sad, or words resulted in same range of pain rating, probably reflecting child's rating of pain intensity. For comparison purposes, numbers 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 can be substituted for the 0 to 5 system to accommodate a 10-point system.</p> <p>The Wong-Baker FACES Pain Rating Scale provides five scales in one: faces expressions, numbers, and verbal anchors. Research supports cultural sensitivity of FACES for Caucasian, African American, Hispanic, Thai, Chinese, and Japanese children.</p>



Word-Graphic Rating Scale⁺ (Tesler, Savedra, Holzemer, et al, 1991)		
Uses descriptive words (may vary in other scales) to denote varying intensities of pain	<p>Explain to child, “This is a line with words to describe how much pain you may have. This side of the line means no pain, and over here the line means worst possible pain.” (Point with your finger where “no pain” is, and run your finger along the line to “worst possible pain,” as you say it.) “If you have no pain, you would mark like this.” (Show example.) “If you have some pain, you would mark somewhere along the line, depending on how much pain you have.” (Show example.) “The more pain you have, the closer to worst pain you would mark. The worst pain possible is marked like this.” (Show example.) “Show me how much pain you have right now by marking with a straight, up-and-down line</p>	For children from 7 to 17 years old.