## Standard Score Sheet for the assessment of wellbeing in mice: *surgical wounds* [Animal facility or facilities:]



CREATE CHANGE

Project title:		
Animal Ethics #	Name of contact person:	
Chief investigator:	Contact number:	
Research Group:	After hours number:	

## Scoring of wellbeing will be performed relative to the following assessment criteria:

Critoria	Score													
Criteria	0	1 (mild)	2 (moderate)	3 (severe)										
Activity and responsiveness	Normal	Mild/slight reduction in activity relative to normal or previous observations	Isolated from cage-mates or obvious reduction in activity and responsiveness relative to normal or previous observations; alternatively, there is increased response to stimulus (e.g. appears agitated, twitching, easily started, or photophobic)	Stationary while awake for prolonged periods (>15min); when nudged, does not move, or makes poor attempts to move; collapsed and unable to right itself; persistent and prolonged fitting/ trembling (>1min)										
Facial grimace (see image 1)	Not present	Facial grimace is subtle or inconsistent (i.e. only 1 to 2 of the "indicators" demonstrated in image 1 are moderately present)	Facial grimace is moderate (i.e. at least 3 of the 5 "indicators" are "moderately present")	Facial grimace is obvious (i.e. at least 3 of the 5 "indicators" are "obviously present") however, there must also be indication of other generalised symptoms (e.g. hunching, reduced activity)										
Coat condition (see image 2)	Normal	Coat does not appear entirely smooth, clean and silky (i.e. the coat appears slightly 'rough')	Some indication of piloerection is present (i.e. 'rough' coat), but it is not obvious over the mouse's entire surface area	Generalised piloerection, i.e. obvious, very rough coat over majority of the body's surface area (as demonstrated in image 2)										
Body position/ posture (see image 3)	Normal	Mild hunching (see image 3)	Moderate hunching	Severe hunching: or arching and writhing (despite analgesia having been provided)										
Respiratory function	Normal	-	Increased respiratory effort (mild increases in respiratory rate, increased abdominal movement)	Increased respiratory effort compromising normal behaviours (i.e. the animal is lethargic, isolated and inappropriately responsive); or has slowed respiratory rate and gasping; or is open mouth breathing; or has blue mucous membranes or extremities; or noisy breathing (e.g. respiratory "clicking")										
Body weight loss*	<5%	5-9% (relative to body weight recorded at the start of the experiment i.e. day 0)	10-14%	≥15%										
Surgical wound	Unremarkable wound healing	Minimal red discolouration (i.e. minor localised inflammation), some clear/serous discharge, no wound separation	Localised red discolouration, seepage of some bloody discharge, or recoverable wound separation (e.g. <5mm defect)	Purple or black discolouration, or discharge of puss or other overt signs of post operative infection, or non- recoverable wound separation (e.g. >5mm defect)										

\*please note: body weight may not need to be measured at each monitoring point, particularly if monitoring is occurring frequently. A common-sense approach must be taken e.g. body weight should be measured on the day of surgery, and then again on each day thereafter for 3 days. Following this if otherwise "stable" in condition (with no other symptoms), body weight may not need to be measured more frequently than once a week, but general (visual) monitoring should occur more frequently than once a week.

Cumulative Score:	Action, relative to cumulative score:
0	<ul> <li>no action (in addition to routine care and monitoring)</li> </ul>
1 to 4	= symptoms observed, monitor at least daily (including all animals of similar treatment groups), if symptoms are unexpected seek veterinary advice
5 to 11	= monitor at least twice daily, provide food/water supplementation (e.g. wet mash or gel pack on the cage floor), if symptoms are unexpected seek veterinary advice
> 11	<ul> <li>euthanasia is required (unless otherwise advised by a facility veterinarian)</li> </ul>
*** A score of 3 in a	any one category = euthanasia is required (unless otherwise advised by a facility veterinarian) **

Comments:

**Image 1. The 5 "indicators" of facial grimace, as per Mouse Grimace Scale:** <u>https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/grimacescales</u> Please note: facial grimace can be subtle and requires experience to be able to assess accurately. If you are not comfortable assessing this parameter, you must seek training and support for this purpose – contact your Chief Investigator and the relevant animal facility staff.

	Not present	Moderately present	Obviously present
Orbital tightening	C.		
Nose bulge			
Cheek bulge			-
Ear position			
Whisker change			

Image 2. Score 3 (severe) for the criteria: "coat condition". This mouse has diffuse piloerection, image source: <u>https://www.humane-endpoints.info/en</u>



Image 3. Hunching, scored from normal (score 0) to severe (score 3), modified from: <u>Sevcik MA, Jonas BM, Lindsay TH, et al. Endogenous opioids inhibit early-stage</u> pancreatic pain in a mouse model of pancreatic cancer. *Gastroenterology*. 2006;131(3):900–910.

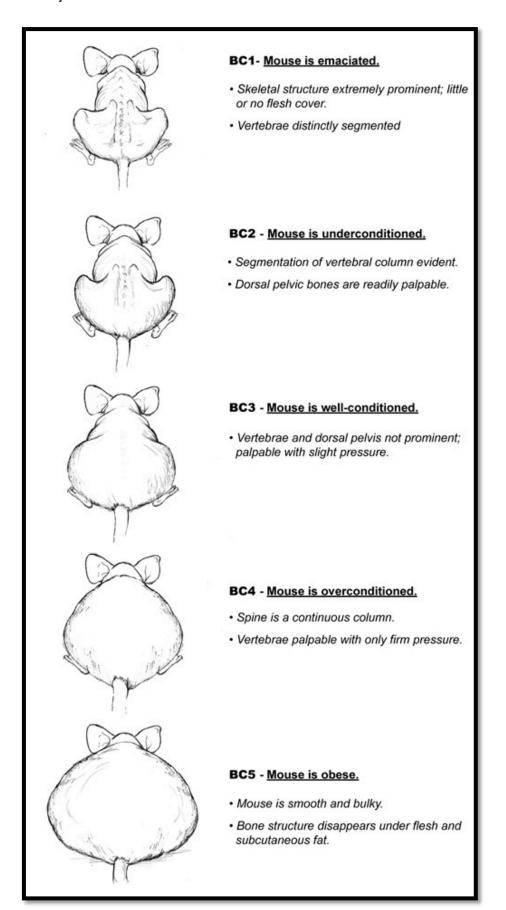
Please note: ear tag-identifiers (as displayed in this image) are generally not considered appropriate for use in mice, as there are other, more refined methods of individual identification.

A Degree of Hunching	B Hunching Profile	Normal (score 0)
C	D	Mild hunching (score 1)
E	F	Moderate hunching (score 2)
G	H	
	J	Severe hunching (score 3)

3

## Image 4: Mouse, Body Condition Score reference.

"Body Condition Scoring (BC) is a quick, easy and reliable method for assessing mouse health. It utilizes a scoring system of 1 to 5 with 3 being the optimal condition, 1 being emaciated and 5 being obese." Source: <u>Burkholder T, Foltz C, Karlsson E, Linton CG, Smith JM. Health Evaluation of Experimental Laboratory Mice. *Curr Protoc Mouse Biol.* 2012;2:145–165. [Body condition scores should be used with this score sheet "Standard Score Sheet for the assessment of wellbeing in mice" to avoid excessive handling (through repeated weighing) when performing frequent monitoring. Body condition scores complement body weight measurements; however, their use does not contribute to the score sheet's "cumulative score"]</u>



Monitoring record for the assessment of wellbeing in mice: surgical wounds (see "Standard Score Sheet mice: surgical wounds" for a description of the scores relative to the criteria below)																						
Project title: Chief Investiga Experimental/ 1	up:	Name	e of cont	tact pers		AEC approval #: Contact number: Mouse ID:								After hours:								
Date																						
Day (of study)																						
Criteria (score	es 0 to	3):																				
Activity & responsiven	ess																					
Facial grimace																						
Coat condition																						
Body position/ posture	•																					
Respiratory function																						
Body weight loss*																						
Body weight change (	%)																					
Body weight (g)																						
Surgical wound																						
Cumulative score (i.e. total)																						
Comments: (please use a key)																						
*Please note: body	weight ma	ay not ne	ed to b	be meas	sured at ea	ch monito	ring point.	Refer	to "Sta	ndard Sco	re She	et	mice:	surgica	al woun	ds" foi	r deta	ails.				
Cumulative score:		Action, r	elative	e to cun	nulative s	core:																
0	:	= no actio	on (in a	addition	to routine	care and r	nonitoring	)														
1 to 4	:	= sympto	ms ob	served,	monitor at	least daily	(includin	g all ar	nimals	of similar t	reatme	nt gro	oups),	consid	er seek	ing ve	terina	ary adv	/ice			
5 to 11		• •			daily, prov	-	•	•				Ũ	• •			•				terinary	advice	
> 11					d (unless o							0			0	,.			U	,		
*** A score of				•					•	,	acility v	veter	inariar	ר) ***								
Original mouse we		16		17	18	19	20	1	21	22	23		24	, 	25	26	6	27		28	29	30
	5%	15.2		16.2	17.1	18.1	19.0	2	20.0	20.9	21.9	)	22.8		23.8	24	.7	25.7	7	26.6	27.6	28.5
Weight loss (%)	10%	14.4		15.3	16.2	17.1	18.0	1	18.9	19.8	20.7	7	21.6		22.5	23	.4	24.3	3	25.2	26.1	27.0
	15%	13.6		14.5	15.3	16.2	17.0	1	17.9	18.7	19.6	3	20.4		21.3	22	.1	23.0	0	23.8	24.7	25.5

## **Monitoring record** for the assessment of wellbeing in mice: surgical wounds (see "Standard Score Sheet ... mice: surgical wounds" for a description of the scores relative to the criteria below)

Project titl Chief Inves Date:	stigato				appr of stu				Name of contact person: Contact number: After hours:									
	_			Crite	ria (s	cores	s 0 to	3):										
Mouse ID#	Treatm	nent grou	qı	Activity & responsiveness	Facial grimace	Coat condition	Body position / posture	Respiratory function	Body weight loss*	Body weight change (%)	Body weight (g)	Surgical wound	Cumulative score (i.e. total)	Comments				
*Note: body w	 eight ma	y not ne	ed to be	e measu	red at e	each m	onitorir	l Ig point.	Refer t	o "Score	Sheet	mice:	surgica	l wounds"	for detail	s.		
Cumulativ	-							•	score:				v					
0	0 00010	•		•							onitorir	na)						
1 to	4		= sy	/mptoi	ns ob	serve	d, mo	nitor a	t least	daily	(includ		anima	ls of sim	ilar trea	atment		
5 to	. 11									advice		nnlomo	ntatia	n (o a w	int man	b or ac	,	
5 10	, 1 (											ppieme iry advi		n (e.g. w	ermas	n or ge	71	
> 1			= ei	uthana	isia is	requi	red (u	inless	otherv	vise ac	lvised	by a fa	cility v	eterinari	,			
A score of	f 3 in ar	ny one	catego	ory = ei	uthana	asia is	requi	red (ui	nless c	otherwi	se adv	ised by	a faci	lity veter	inarian	)***		
Original mo weight (		16	17	18	19	) 2	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	5%	15.2	16.2	17.1	18.	1 1	9.0	20.0	20.9	21.9	22.8	23.8	24.7	25.7	26.6	27.6	28.5	
Weight loss (%)	10%	14.4	15.3	16.2	17.	1 1	8.0	18.9	19.8	20.7	21.6	22.5	23.4	24.3	25.2	26.1	27.0	
~ /	15%	13.6	14.5	15.3	16.	2 1	7.0	17.9	18.7	19.6	20.4	21.3	22.1	23.0	23.8	24.7	25.5	