

# Quality of Life Scale

Using a scale of 1 (poor) to 10 (best), score your pet under each of the following categories:

**HURT:** Adequate pain control, including breathing ability, is first and foremost on the scale. Is the pet's pain successfully managed? Is oxygen necessary?

  
SCORE

**HUNGER:** Is the pet eating enough? Does hand feeding help? Does the patient require a feeding tube?

  
SCORE

**HYDRATION:** Is your pet hydrated? For pets not drinking enough, consider speaking to your vet about using subcutaneous fluids once or twice daily to supplement fluid intake.

  
SCORE

**HYGIENE:** Is your pet soiling him/herself? Your pet should be kept clean and brushed, particularly after elimination. Avoid pressure sores with frequent turning and keep all wounds clean.

  
SCORE

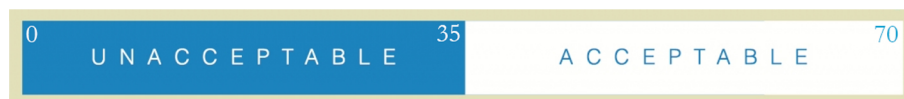
**HAPPINESS:** Does your pet express joy and interest? Is your pet responsive to things in the environment (family, toys, etc.)? Is your pet depressed, lonely, anxious, bored, or afraid?

  
SCORE

**MOBILITY:** Can your pet get up without assistance? Does your pet want to go on walks? Is your pet having seizures or stumbling? A pet who has limited mobility but is still alert and responsive can have a good quality of life as long as their caregivers are committed to helping.

  
SCORE

**MORE GOOD DAYS THAN BAD:** When the bad days outnumber the good days, quality of life might be too compromised. When a healthy human-animal bond is no longer possible, the caregiver must understand that the end is near. The decision needs to be made if the pet is suffering. If death comes peacefully and painlessly, that is OK.

  
SCORE  
TOTAL SCORE