

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
WARREN GRANT MAGNUSON CLINICAL CENTER

PAIN INTENSITY INSTRUMENTS
JULY 2003

Checklist of Non-Verbal Indicators (CNVI) (page 1 of 1)

	With Movement	At Rest
Vocal Complaints – nonverbal expression of pain demonstrated by moans, groans, grunts, cries, gasps, sighs)		
Facial Grimaces and Winces – furrowed brow, narrowed eyes, tightened lips, dropped jaw, clenched teeth, distorted expression		
Bracing – clutching or holding onto siderails, bed, tray table, or affected area during movement		
Restlessness – constant or intermittent shifting of position, rocking, intermittent or constant hand motions, inability to keep still		
Rubbing – massaging affected area		
Vocal complaints – verbal expression of pain using words, e.g., “ouch” or “that hurts;” cursing during movement, or exclamations of protest, e.g., “stop” or “that’s enough.”		
TOTAL SCORE		

Indications: Behavioral Health adults who are unable to validate the presence of or quantify the severity of pain using either the Numerical Rating Scale or the Wong-Baker Faces Pain Rating Scale.

Instructions:

1. Write a 0 if the behavior was not observed
2. Write a 1 if the behavior even briefly during activity or rest
3. Results in a total score between 0 and 5.
4. The interdisciplinary team in collaboration with the patient (if appropriate), can determine appropriate interventions in response to CNVI scores.

Reference

Feldt, KS. (2000). The checklist of nonverbal pain indicators (CNPI). Pain Management Nursing, 1(1): 13-21.