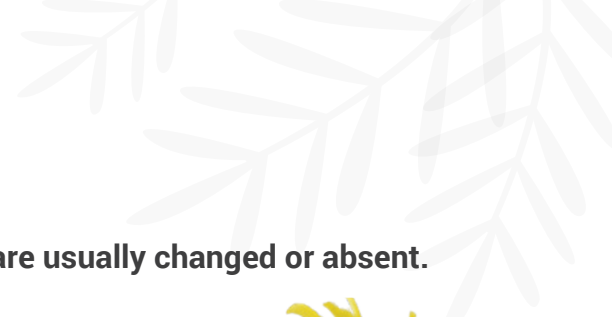




# Pain Assessment in Birds





# Pain Assessment in Birds

When a bird experiences pain, some of the normal behaviors are usually changed or absent. These includes:

**Decreased social interactions:** Perching away from other birds, decreased grooming of self or other conspecifics (birds of its own species), decreased interactions with owner.

**Guarding behavior:** Change in posture to protect a painful area or hide it from you, decreased activity.

**Increased aggression** toward flock mates or owner.

**Grooming behavior at painful site** or generalized, feather-destructive behaviors, selfmutilation.



I. Physical	Often	Sometimes	Rarely
	0	1 point	2 point
1. Is your bird's energy level normal?			
2. Is your bird capable of completing normal, everyday tasks (playing, foraging, etc.)			
3. Is your bird eating normal amounts of food?			
4. Does your bird eat the normal variety of foods offered?			
5. Does your bird greet you with alertness and vocalization?			
6. Does your bird walk easily without bumping into things?			
7. Does your bird fly easily?			
8. Does your bird hear normally?			
9. Is your bird usually calm?			
10. Is your bird breathing normally, without tail-bobbing?			
11. My bird likes to interact with people and other pets.			
12. Does your bird sleep comfortably on a perch?			
13. My bird never needs to sleep on a platform for stability.			
14. Does your bird alternate its sleeping positions?			



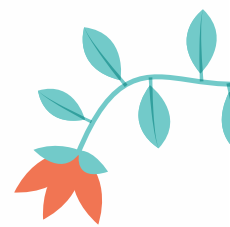
II. Behavioral	Often	Sometimes	Rarely
1. Is your bird behaving normally?			
2. Does your bird play with toys?			
3. Does your bird enjoy foraging opportunities?			
4. Does your bird engage in normal self-grooming/preening behavior?			
5. Does your bird engage in social grooming of other birds?			
6. Does your bird preen normally after a bath?			
7. Is your bird easy to awaken?			
8. My bird is generally calm.			
9. My bird can perch comfortably without having to change positions frequently.			
10. My bird is generally active,			
11. My birds feathers are in good condition.			
12. My bird grooms itself appropriately without causing bleeding.			
13. My bird likes to stay busy.			
14. My bird is tolerant of flock mates of the same species.			
15. My bird is easily handled and rarely aggressive			
16. My bird tolerant of other pets in the house.			
17. My bird is free from lumps under its skin.			
18. Are your bird's eyes clear and bright?			
19. My birds nares clear and free of debris.			
20. My birds vent is clean with healthy tissue.			
21. There is no tissue coming out of my birds vent.			
22. My birds preening gland has healthy tissue around it,			

### III. Social

	Often	Sometimes	Rarely
1. Is your bird happy to see you when you get home?			
2. Does your bird interact normally with you?			
3. Does your bird interact normally with other people?			
4. Do you think your bird is happy?			

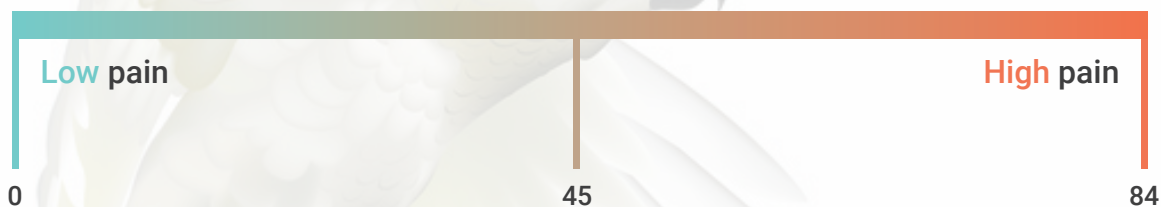
## Scoring the Bird Pain Assessment

1. Tally the number of answers for each frequency column - Often, Sometimes, Rarely.
2. Multiply the number of responses by the weight factor. For example, if you scored a total of 5 "Rarely" response  $\times 2 = 10$ .
3. Total all answers to determine your birds pain severity level.



Symptom Frequency	# Of Responses	Multiply by	Total
Often = 0		0	
Sometimes = 1 point		1	
Rarely = 2 points		2	

Total score: \_\_\_\_\_



#### Disclaimer:

Never administer pain medication to your pet without consulting your veterinarian. After diagnosing the problem, your veterinarian will explain the benefits, risks, and costs of various treatment options. That way, you and your veterinarian can choose the treatment options that best meet the needs of you and your pet.