

ADVANCED DEMENTIA

PAINAD Scale

(Warden V, Hurley AC, Volicer L. Development and Psychometric Evaluation of the Pain Assessment in Advanced Dementia (PAINAD) Scale J Am Med Dir Assoc 2003; 4: 9-15)

Based on a 0-2 scale for five items yielding a score between 0-10. Below is an example of the scale. The scale is accompanied by item definitions, not included here. The authors note that PAINAD can be used accurately after a 2-hour training session. Limitations of the study include a relatively small number of participants, who were white elderly middle-class male veterans, while the majority of dementia patients are female.

Items*	0	1	2	Score
Breathing independent of vocalization	Normal	Occasional labored breathing. Short period of hyperventilation.	Noisy labored breathing. Long period of hyperventilation. Cheyne-Stokes respirations.	
Negative vocalization	None	Occasional moan or groan. Low-level speech with a negative or disapproving quality.	Repeated troubled calling out. Loud moaning or groaning. Crying.	
Facial expression	Smiling or inexpressive	Sad. Frightened. Frown.	Facial grimacing.	
Body language	Relaxed	Tense. Distressed pacing. Fidgeting.	Rigid. Fists clenched. Knees pulled up. Pulling or pushing away. Striking out.	
Consolability	No need to console	Distracted or reassured by voice or touch.	Unable to console, distract or reassure.	
Total**				