



Signs of Pain Client Handout

One of the goals of Steveston Veterinary Hospital is to provide a stress-free and pain-free experience for your pet, especially after surgical procedures and as your pet begins to age. We would like to provide you with a handout that you may refer to at home to help you be able to better identify when your pet may be experiencing pain.

Signs of Pain:

Loss of Normal Behavior

Decreased activity, lethargic attitude,
decreased appetite, decreased grooming
(especially in cats)

Expression of Abnormal Behavior

Inappropriate elimination, vocalization,
aggression or decreased interaction with other pets
or family members, altered facial expression, altered posture,
restlessness (especially in cats)

Reaction to touch

Increased bodily tension or flinching in response
to gentle palpation of injured areas, and
palpation of regions likely to be painful
(e.g., neck, back, hips, elbows, incision site)

Physiologic parameters

Increased respiratory rate, body temperature,
pupil dilation

If you suspect that your pet may be experiencing one or more of the signs listed above or you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 604-274-9938. Should you need after hours assistance or information please call one of the after hours emergency clinics listed on our website at:

www.stevestonvethospital.com/emergency-contacts.

As always, thank you for allowing our doctors and staff to provide medical care for your family pet.