

The Alder Hey Triage Pain 'Cries Score'

	Response	Score 0	Score 1	Score 2
1.	Cry or voice	No complaint / cry	Consolable	Inconsolable
2.	Facial expression	Normal conversation	Not talking negative	Complaining of pain
		Normal	Short grimace <50% of time	Long grimace >50% of time
3.	Posture	Normal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touching • Rubbing • Sparing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defensive • Tense
4.	Movement	Normal	Reduced or restless	Immobile or thrashing
5.	Colour	Normal	Pale	Very pale / "green"

CRY / VOICE

Score 0	Child is not crying and although may be quiet, is vocalising appropriately with carer/taking notice of surroundings.
Score 1	Child is crying but consolable/distractible or is excessively quiet and responding negatively to carer. On direct questioning says it's painful.
Score 2	Child is inconsolable, crying, and/or persistently complaining about pain.

FACIAL EXPRESSION

Score 0	Normal expression and affect.
Score 1	Some transient expressions that suggest pain/distress are witnessed but for less than 50% of time.
Score 2	Persistent facial expressions suggesting pain/distress for more than 50% of time. Grimace - open mouth, lips pulled back at corners, furrowed forehead and/or between eyebrows, eyes closed, wrinkled at corners.

POSTURE

Score 1	Exhibiting increased awareness of affected area, e.g. by touching, rubbing, pointing, sparing, or limping.
Score 2	Affected area is held tense and defended so that touching it is deterred, non-weight bearing.

MOVEMENT

Score 1	Movement is reduced or child is noted to be restless/uncomfortable
Score 2	Movement is abnormal: either very still/rigid or writhing in agony/shaking.

COLOUR

Score 0	Normal
Score 1	Pale
Score 2	Very pale "green", the colour that can sometimes be seen with nausea or fainting - extreme pallor.

Stewart B; Lancaster G; Lawson J; Williams K; Daly J. (2004) Validation of the Alder Hey Triage Pain Score.

Archive Disease in Childhood; 89:625-630