

Sample home pen welfare monitoring tool for laboratory-housed dogs

Dog ID:		Date:					Study Number:			
Socially-housed (Y/N)										
Observed behaviours	Behaviour	Score	8am	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm
Activity level and behavioural states (score one only)	Other (add note)	0								
	Moving calmly	0								
	Resting - head up or head down	1								
	Amicable dog interactions (sniff, groom, play)	1								
	Stand against walls	10								
	Sitting alert	6								
	Standing alert	6								
	Pacing between pens	10								
Posture (ear, body and tail position) (score one only)	Neutral (relaxed)	0								
	High (raised ears/body/tail)	10								
	Low (lowered ears/body/tail)	10								
Events (score all that apply)	Pant	10								
	Lip smacking or licking	10								
	Paw lift	10								
Total										

Score range each hour: 0-50.

Interpretation: 0-16 no concern; 17-30 continue to monitor behaviour, consider intervention if score does not decrease; >30 welfare concern, intervention recommended if score consistently elevated.

Reference: Hall, L. E., Robinson, S., & Buchanan-Smith, H. M. (2015). Refining dosing by oral gavage in the dog: A protocol to harmonise welfare. *Journal of Pharmacological and Toxicological Methods*, 72, 35-46.

Please contact laura@refiningdogcare.com for further information on welfare assessment.