

Behavioral Pain Scale (BPS) of Robieux et al

Overview: Robieux et al developed a behavioral pain scale for use in young children during procedures such as venipuncture. It can be used to monitor the effectiveness of interventions to reduce manifested pain. It was developed as a simplified version of CHEOPS at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto Canada.

Patients: infants and toddlers

Parameters: (1) facial expression

(2) cry

(3) movements

Parameter	Finding	Points
facial expression	positive expression (smiling)	0
	neutral expression	1
	negative expression (grimace)	2
Cry	laughing or giggling	0
	not crying	1
	moaning	2
	full lunged cry or sobbing	3
Movements	usual movements (i.e. playing)	0
	neutral not moving	1
	attempt to withdraw	2
	complex agitation involving head other limbs	3

behavioral pain score = SUM(points for the 3 parameters)

Interpretation:

- minimum score: 0
- maximum score: 8
- The higher the score the more severe the pain.

References:

Koren G. Use of the eutectic mixture of local anesthetics in young children for procedure-related pain. J Pediatr. 1993; 122: S30-S35.

Robieux I Kumar R et al. Assessing pain and analgesia with a lidocaine-prilocaine emulsion in infants and toddlers during venipuncture. J Pediatr. 1991; 118: 971-973.