McCaffrey Initial Pain Assessment Tool

Introduction

The McCaffrey Initial Pain Assessment Tool can be used to guide health care professionals through an initial assessment of patient pain. This tool includes diagrams of the human body to help patients locate the pain they experience as well as questions to prompt the patient to describe the intensity, quality, causes, effects, and contributing factors of the pain.
McCaffrey Initial Pain Assessment Tool

Patient’s Name ____________________________  Age __________  Room __________

Diagnosis ______________________________  Physician ____________________________

Nurse ______________________________

Date ____________________________

1. LOCATION: Patient or nurse marks drawing.

2. INTENSITY: Patient rates the pain. Scale used ____________________________

   Present: ____________________________

   Worst pain gets: ____________________________

   Best pain gets: ____________________________

   Acceptable level of pain: ____________________________

3. QUALITY: (Use patient’s own words, e.g., prick, ache, burn, throb, pull sharp)


4. ONSET, DURATION, VARIATIONS, RHYTHMS:


5. MANNER OF EXPRESSING PAIN?


6. WHAT RELIEVES THE PAIN?


7. WHAT CAUSES OR INCREASES THE PAIN?


8. EFFECTS OF PAIN: (Note decreased function, decreased quality of life.)

   Accompanying symptoms (e.g., nausea)

   Sleep ____________________________

   Appetite ____________________________

   Physical activity ____________________________

   Relationship with others (e.g., irritability)

   Emotions (e.g., anger, suicidal, crying)

   Concentration ____________________________

   Other ____________________________

9. OTHER COMMENTS: ____________________________

10. PLAN: ____________________________


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