Feline FAS Sedation - Pain Algorithm

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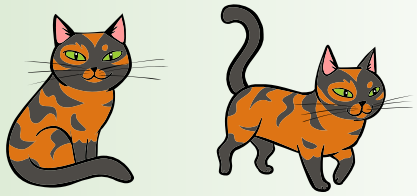
Cat presents for examination:

FAS LEVEL 0-1

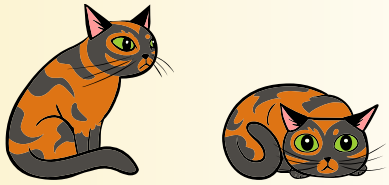


Cat is relaxed or has subtle signs of FAS, readily accepts toys, treats, attention.

→ Continue with the examination as long as the cat remains relaxed

↓ If cat begins to resist...

FAS LEVEL 2-3



Cat is fidgeting, has difficulty settling, little to moderate interest in toys, treats, attention.

→ Proceed cautiously if cat struggles for more than 2 seconds, stop and give the cat a break

→ Cat stops struggling → Continue or complete exam

Consider PVPs for future visits

→ If cat continues to struggle...

FAS LEVEL 4-5

Cat shows little to no interest in treats, toys, and/or attention. Fight, freeze, flight response.

→ **Sedate** Please continue to page 2

→ Or reschedule for another day and prescribe pre-visit pharmaceutical (PVP)

Alprazolam 0.125-0.25 mg/CAT PO ***OR***
Lorazepam 0.25-0.5 mg/CAT PO ***OR***
Gabapentin 50-100 mg/CAT PO ***OR***
Trazodone 50 mg/CAT PO

NOTE: Some of the above can be given in combination.

Feline Sedation Protocols Healthy Patients

Use lower end of dosage range for geriatrics

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FAS LEVEL 2-3	 **Dexmedetomidine** 1-5 mcg/kg IV or 5-15 mcg/kg IM ***OR*** **Acepromazine** 0.05-0.1 mg/kg IM or IV ***with*** **Midazolam** 0.2 mg/kg IM or IV	**MILD PAIN** **Buprenorphine** 0.02-0.03 mg/kg IM or IV ***OR*** **Butorphanol** 0.2-0.4 mg/kg IM or IV
FAS LEVEL 3-4	 **Dexmedetomidine** 5-15 mcg/kg IM ***with*** **Butorphanol** 0.2-0.4 mg/kg IM *(For moderate to severe pain use Buprenorphine or a pure mu opioid instead of Butorphanol)* (+/−) **Midazolam** 0.2 mg/kg IM or IV	**MODERATE PAIN** **Buprenorphine** 0.02-0.03 mg/kg IM or IV ***OR*** **Hydromorphone** 0.05-0.1 mg/kg IM or IV ***OR*** **Morphine** 0.05-0.2 mg/kg IM
FAS LEVEL 5	 **Dexmedetomidine** 20-40 mcg/kg IM ***with*** **Butorphanol** 0.2-0.4 mg/kg IM ***OR*** 0.02 mg/kg **Buprenorphine** IM *(For severe pain use pure mu opioid instead of Butorphanol or Buprenorphine)* (+) **Ketamine** 1-2 mg/kg IM or 5-10 mg/kg IM for anesthesia ***OR*** **Tiletamine-Zolazepam** 1-2 mg/kg IM	**SEVERE PAIN** **Hydromorphone** 0.05-0.1 mg/kg IM ***OR*** **Morphine** 0.05-0.2 mg/kg IM