

Appendix G: A sample sheet for scoring animals (derived from Hampshire et al., 2001 *Laboratory Animals* 35(3):223-229).

Rodent Postoperative Scoresheet

Observation	Individual Score	Score Standards	Details
Attitude		0	Bright and alert
		0.1	Burrowing or hiding, quiet but rouses when touched
		0.4	Burrowing or hiding, quiet but rouses when touched. No Exploration when lid off, burrows, hides, head presses. Might be aggressive when touched
Porphyrin		0	None
		0.1	Mild around eyes and/or nostrils
		0.4	Obvious on face or paws
Gait and posture		0	Normal
		0.1	Mild incoordination when stimulated, hunched posture, mild piloerection
		0.4	Obvious ataxia or head tilt, hunching, drags one or both limbs, severe piloerection
Weight		0	Up to 5% weight loss over pre-op weight
		0.1	5-10% weight loss over pre-op weight
		0.4	10-20% weight loss over pre-op weight
Appetite		0	Normal. Eats dry food, evidence of uring and faeces, food missing from feeder or floor, Jell-O gone within 8 h, evidence that fruit is chewed on
		0.1	No evidence of eating dry food but likes Jell-O and fruit, drinks and appears hydrated (skin does not 'tent')
		0.4	No interest in food or treats and/or appears dehydrated (poor skin turgor)

Note: Animals are scored on each variable (e.g., weight) and a composite score is derived, reflecting their overall welfare status.