



IPM Clinical Documentation Guide July 2014

Clinical information must be documented in Office Visit Notes or other medical record documentation, such as x-ray, diagnostic imaging or testing reports or other physician referral documentation. Handwritten notes on cover sheets, telephone calls, or other fax pages that are not reflected in office visit notes or other objective documents will be noted as such- “handwritten note on cover sheet (telephone call, etc.) without confirmation in Office Visit note”- but will not constitute actionable information for clinical decision making.

Initial IPM Procedure Request

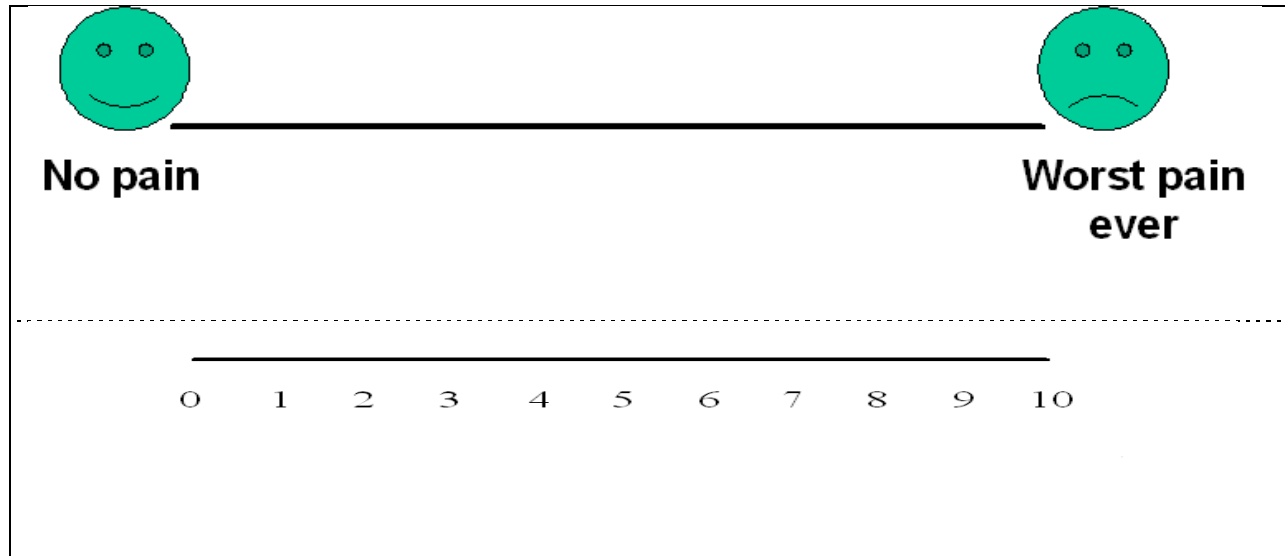
- Diagnosis, date of onset of back or neck pain
- Physical exam findings related to back/neck pain, intensity, and any neurological deficits
- Recent imaging studies reports
- Documentation of patient’s pain levels (on a scale of 1-10) and impact on functional abilities
- Detailed documentation of the extent, duration and response to conservative therapy tried within the most recent 3 months. Conservative therapy measures may include a combination of modalities such as:
 - Modified activities (e.g. ice, heat, rest the area, stay off injured part)
 - Medical devices
 - Medication use
 - Physician supervised home exercise program
 - Physical therapy, if indicated
- Supporting documentation on any prior interventional pain management procedure(s) including the date of the procedure, spinal region, and the effectiveness in reducing pain and improving functional ability

Repeat IPM Procedure Request

- Date of the prior procedure and spinal region treated
- Documentation of patient’s pain levels (on a scale of 1-10) and the effectiveness in reducing the patient’s pain and improving functional ability. (i.e. how much improvement and for how long)
- Office visit note and physical exam findings related to patient’s current pain, intensity, and any neurological deficits
- Conservative therapy measures being done in conjunction with the interventional pain procedure requested

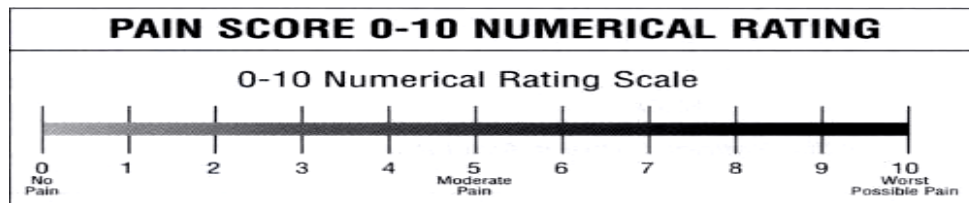
Sample Pain Rating Scales

Visual analogue scale (VAS)



A horizontal line with a smiling face at the left end and a frowning face at the right end. Below the line, the text "No pain" is on the left and "Worst pain ever" is on the right. A dashed horizontal line is below the main line. Below the dashed line, a solid horizontal line is shown with numbers 0 through 10 spaced evenly along it.

Numerical rating scale (NRS)



Faces rating scale (FRS)

