

Pain Thermometer Scale

Name _____

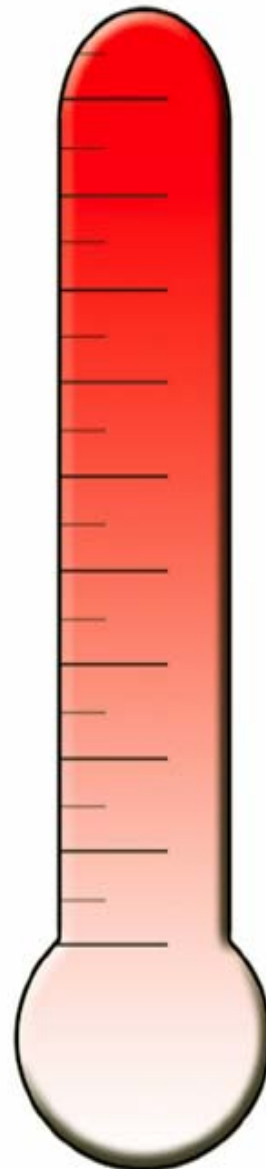
Date _____

Pain Thermometer Use

This tool is excellent for patients whose cognitive deficits are moderate to severe, or who have difficulty communicating verbally. Ask the patient to circle words next to the thermometer or to mark the area on the thermometer to indicate the intensity of current pain.

Pain Thermometer Scoring

Document the words circled or those corresponding to the area of the thermometer the patient marks to identify level of pain intensity. Evaluate the change in pain descriptors selected by the patient over time to determine the effectiveness of pain treatments. Alternately, the words can be scored from 0 to 5 for recording purposes.



**Pain As Bad As
Could Be**

Extreme Pain

Severe Pain

Moderate Pain

Mild Pain

No Pain

Used with permission of Keela Herr, PhD, RN,
College of Nursing, University of Iowa.