



## **Category 7: Patient Observation**

### **OPTIONAL - Outpatient Procedures and Experience**

**7.5 Practice team members have knowledge of and demonstrate appropriate use of Fear Free methods, protocols, and procedures during outpatient care.**

### **OPTIONAL - Inpatient & Hospitalized Patient Procedures and Experience**

**7.6 Practice team members have knowledge of and demonstrate appropriate use of Fear Free methods, protocols, and procedures during inpatient care.**

### **General Concepts**

If a patient is struggling for a procedure:

- A dog struggling for more than 3 seconds and a cat for more than 2 seconds requires that the staff reposition and reassess handling techniques or overall handling plan.
- If after 3 tries for dogs and 2 tries for cats, the patient still struggles, the procedure will be stopped and the need for the procedure will be reassessed and the handling plan modified to prevent struggling and escalating FAS.

### **Resources include but are not limited to:**

- Podcasts
  - Putting the “Treat Into “Treatment”: Inside the Fear Free Treat Ladder
  - The Benefits of In-Clinic Sedation in the Fear Free Practice
  - Fear Free: Beyond the Treats
- Education Library: Fear Free Handling and Restraint for Dogs and Cats
- Webinars
  - Vaccinations for the Mind: Positive Puppy Socialization
  - Fear Free: Evolving to the Hospitalized, Emergent, and Sick Patient
  - Care of Hospitalized and Boarding Patients