



Category 7: Patient Observation

OPTIONAL

7.5 Inpatient Practice Experiences

Staff show knowledge of and/or demonstrate appropriate use of Fear Free methods, protocols, and procedures during inpatient care.

Practice must achieve **at least eight (8)** of the following to attain the 90 points:

- Visual blocks for cages, such as hiding boxes or cage covers
- Visual blocks for patients receiving treatments, such as curtains or barriers
- Masking noises in wards/housing facilities, such as white noise or calming music
- Non-slip flooring in cages and on treatment tables
- Application of calming techniques
- Tools for gentle control, such as toweling techniques or basket-type muzzles*
- Touch gradient during procedures and treatments
- Knowledge of pre-visit pharmaceuticals (e.g. trazodone, benzodiazepines, gabapentin)
- Knowledge of pre-visit nutraceuticals (e.g. alpha-casozepine, L-theanine)
- Knowledge of compression garments
- During stay, use high-value food items when appropriate to decrease FAS
- Thoughtful placement of patients to minimize FAS
- During stay, place familiar items from home such as bed, towels or favorite toys with patient and implement spot cleaning whenever possible

Equipment and Supplies

May include but are not limited to:

- Cage covers, boxes
- Curtains
- Noise masking
- Towels, basket-type muzzles*
- Pharmaceuticals
- Nutraceuticals
- Compression garments
- High-value treats and/or other distractors (toys, brushes, catnip)

Examples and Compliance Paths

See above



Category 7: Patient Observation

Scoring

Observational

*see previous notes on muzzles