

HAPPINESS

Does my dog express joy and interest? Are they responsive to things (family, toys, etc.)?

1 = Is isolated more than 50% of time. Shows no interest in previously enjoyed activities.	3 = Is spending 50% of time isolated. Seems depressed, lonely, anxious, bored, or afraid.	5 = Spends some time alone, but still likes to spend time with family.	7 = Is still interested in old activities, but cannot always perform them.	9 = Is still doing all the activities they were doing before they became ill.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				

MOBILITY

Can my dog get up without assistance? Do they need human help or a cart to get around? Are they still happy to go on walks?

1 = Is no longer able to get up. Soils on himself/herself	3 = Activity is decreased by more than 50%, but can still go outside for urination/BM	5 = Ability to play, jump, run, and do normal activities is decreased by less than 50%	7 = Ability to play, jump, run, and do normal activities is decreased by less than 25%	9 = Has normal mobility, plays as they did before they became ill
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				

MORE GOOD DAYS THAN BAD

When there are too many bad days in a row, quality of life is too compromised and euthanasia should be considered. Bad days may be days filled with undesirable experiences such as vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, frustration, falling down, seizures, and so forth.

1 = No good days	3 = Bad days are 4 to 6 in 7	5 = Bad days 2 or 3 in 7	7 = Bad days are 1 in 7	9 = No bad days
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>				

Over 5 is acceptable in each category. When the score drops below 5, intervention is necessary. If further intervention is not possible (all options have been tried), then euthanasia should be considered.

It is important to remember that the decision to euthanize a terminally ill patient is not a failure. It is a humane, loving, treatment option, and one that will prevent needless suffering.