FUNCTIONAL NEURO SCORING SYSTEM – OLBY (2001)

Appendix

The 5 stages of recovery of use of pelvic limbs in dogs with spinal cord injuries. Each stage is subdivided on the basis of recovery patterns (ie, yielding a scale of 0 to 14). Dogs were considered as weight-bearing when the full weight was born with joints extended for at least 2 steps (ie, standing alone was not considered weight-bearing).

Stage 1
  0—No pelvic limb movement and no deep pain sensation.
  1—No pelvic limb movement with deep pain sensation.
  2—No pelvic limb movement but voluntary tail movement.

Stage 2
  3—Minimal non–weight-bearing protraction of the pelvic limb (movement of 1 joint).
  4—Non–weight-bearing protraction of the pelvic limb with > 1 joint involved < 50% of the time.
  5—Non–weight-bearing protraction of the pelvic limb with > 1 joint involved > 50% of the time.

Stage 3
  6—Weight-bearing protraction of pelvic limb < 10% of the time.
  7—Weight-bearing protraction of pelvic limb 10 to 50% of the time.
  8—Weight-bearing protraction of pelvic limb > 50% of the time.

Stage 4
  9—Weight-bearing protraction 100% of the time with reduced strength of pelvic limb. Mistakes > 90% of the time (eg, crossing of pelvic limbs, scuffing foot on protraction, standing on dorsum of foot, falling).
  10—Weight-bearing protraction of pelvic limb 100% of the time with reduced strength. Mistakes 50 to 90% of the time.
  11—Weight-bearing protraction of pelvic limb 100% of the time with reduced strength. Mistakes < 50% of the time.

Stage 5
  12—Ataxic pelvic limb gait with normal strength, but mistakes > 50% of the time (eg, lack of coordination with thoracic limb, crossing of pelvic limbs, skipping steps, bunny-hopping, scuffing foot on protraction).
  13—Ataxic pelvic limb gait with normal strength, but mistakes made < 50% of the time.
  14—Normal pelvic limb gait.

Olby N, De Risio L, Muñana KR, et al. Development of a functional scoring system in dogs with acute spinal cord injuries. Am J Vet Res 2001;62:1624–1628.