

Quality of life survey Niessen Forcada Institute of Independent Veterinary Specialists®

1. Please review these questions regularly with everyone who interacts with the animal
2. Please also discuss the answers with your own veterinarian – this will help you make decisions and identify deterioration early
3. You can add items yourself if they are important for the happiness of the individual animal (often something the animal has always liked to do, but can no longer do, or something that the animal has always found exciting or unpleasant and now has to do or experience more or less since there is illness)
4. Green items have positive, gray negative impact on quality of life
5. The questions are mainly intended to make the human family think about what quality of life means for their animal and thus facilitate the assessment.

General domain	Specific quality of life element: yes/ no/ I don't know
Happiness	(1) My animal wants to play (2) My animal reacts to my presence (3) My animal enjoys life
Mental status	(4) My animal has more good days than bad days (5) My animal sleeps more, is awake less (6) My animal is lethargic or depressed, not alert
Pain	(7) My animal is in pain (8) My animal pants a lot, even when it is resting (9) My animal is shaking regularly
Appetite	(10) My animal eats his/her normal amount of food (11) My animal is acting nauseous or vomiting regularly (12) My animal eats snacks
Hygiene	(13) My animal keeps itself clean (14) My animal smells like urine or has skin irritation (15) My animal's fur is greasy, tangled or rough looking
Water balance	(16) My animal drinks enough; Not too much, not too little (17) My animal has normal stools – no diarrhoea (18) My animal urinates in a normal amount and in a normal way

General domain	Specific quality of life element: yes/ no/ I don't know
Mobility	(19) My animal is moving normally (20) My animal lies in one place all day (21) My animal is as active as he/she has always been
Overall health	Overall health compared to the last time (vet visit) – same – better – worse? Overall health compared to when the animal was healthy - same - better - worse?
Overall quality of life assessment	Current quality of life 1- 10 (1=too bad for words, should not go on like this; 10=perfect!)

Adapted from: R.P. Lavan, Development and validation of a survey for quality of life assessment by owners of healthy dogs, The Veterinary Journal, Volume 197, Issue 3, 2013, Pages 578-582, ISSN 1090-0233, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tvjl.2013.03.021>.