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PAIN SCALE

- 0. **Pain free** no medication needed.
- 1. **Very mild pain** you are aware of it but it doesn't bother you much.
- 2. <u>Mild pain</u> you can tolerate it. It is a nuisance, but you rarely need any medicine (even aspirin or Tylenol).
- 3. <u>Mild to moderate pain</u> you can tolerate it, but it is enough to be distracting. You need medicines (like Tylenol) once or twice a day.
- 4. <u>Moderate pain</u> it is uncomfortable and requires medicine like Tylenol several times a day. You have to stop doing certain things like bending, sitting, and standing to control the pain.
- 5. <u>Intense moderate pain</u> it is uncomfortable, medicines like Tylenol don't relieve all the pain. You need medicine from a doctor to relieve the pain. You have a hard time doing your daily work.
- 6. <u>Moderate to severe pain</u> you begin to feel anti-social. You have difficulty just doing simple things. You have to rest part of the day even with medicine from the doctor. You are taking time off from work.
- 7. <u>Severe pain</u> you are frequently anti-social. You have difficulty taking care of yourself even with medicine from the doctor. You spend most time resting. You can still function with effort. Strongest painkillers relieve pain.
- 8. <u>Very severe pain</u> you have to stay in bed most of the time, even with medicine from the doctor, you have a hard time sleeping and can't get comfortable. You are unable to work.
- 9. <u>Extremely severe pain</u> medicine the doctor gives you doesn't help. Staying in bed doesn't help. Physical activity is severely limited. Strongest painkillers are only partially effective.
- 10. <u>Worse pain imaginable</u> crying out or moaning uncontrollably. If you can't get rid of the pain you would think of killing yourself.