

## Proposed APGAR index for neonatal dogs and cats

Parameter	0 pts	1 pt	2 pts
Activity, muscle tone	Flaccid	Some tone in extremities	Active movements
Pulse, heart rate	Absent - < than 110 bpm	110 - 220 bpm	> 220 bpm
Reflexes when stressed	Absent	Some movement	Crying out
Mucous membrane color	Pale or cyanotic	Slightly cyanotic	Pink
Respiratory rate	Absent	Weak, irregular	> 15/min, rhythmic

Interpretation:

Total points	Vitality
0 - 3	Weak
4 - 6	Moderate
7 - 10	Normal

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