Initial Pain Assessment Tool

Date:	
Patient's name: Diagnosis: Physician:	-
Nurse:	-
I. Location: Patient or nurse marks drawing	
II. Intensity: Patient rates the pain. Scale used:	
Present:	_
Worst pain gets:	-
Best pain gets:	-
Acceptable level of pain:	_

III. Quality: (Use patient's own words, e.g., prick, ache, burn, throb, pull, sharp)
IV. Onset, duration, variations, rhythms:
V. Manner of expressing pain:
VI. What relieves the pain?

VII. What causes or increases the pain?
VIII. Effects of pain: (Note decreased function, decreased quality of life.)
Accompanying symptoms (e.g., nausea)
Sleep
Appetite
Physical activity
Relationship with others (e.g., irritability)
Emotions (e.g., anger, suididal, crying)
Concentration
Other

IX. Other comments:	_
X. Plan:	
	_

Note: May be duplicated and used in clinical practice Source: McCaffery and Beebe, 1989. Used with permission.