CANINE MUSCLE CONDITION SCORE (MCS)

MCS is the physical assessment of patient’s muscle mass.

MCS is scored by visual examination and palpation of musculature over the spine, scapulae, skull, and pelvis:

- NORMAL: muscle mass
- MILD: muscle loss
- MODERATE: muscle loss
- SEVERE: muscle loss

Why is MCS important?
- Identifies patients with muscle loss from cachexia and sarcopenia; these can adversely affect outcomes in patients
- Improved medical assessment
- Can help owners recognize undesirable change and adjust intake

The 2021 AAHA Nutrition and Weight Management Guidelines for Dogs and Cats are available at aaha.org/nutrition.
FELINE MUSCLE CONDITION SCORE (MCS)

**MCS is the physical assessment of patient’s muscle mass.**

MCS is scored by visual examination and palpation of musculature over the spine, scapulae, skull, and pelvis:

- **NORMAL**
  - muscle mass
- **MILD**
  - muscle loss
- **MODERATE**
  - muscle loss
- **SEVERE**
  - muscle loss

**Why is MCS important?**

- Identifies patients with muscle loss from cachexia and sarcopenia; these can adversely affect outcomes in patients
- Improved medical assessment
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