|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Behavior Criteria rubric** | **Scores** |
| **Movement** |  |
| Walking around and moving head around | 0 |
| Some walking around (possibly when gently prodded) and head movements both toward and away from stimulus | 1 |
| Very little head or body movement even when gently prodded | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Stance and Body position** |  |
| Body looks round if sitting or long and straight if walking around, looking up, head sway squinting | 0 |
| sometimes that the rat hunches or has pinches sides (not frequent, maybe only once) | 1 |
| Hunched and/or sides seem pinched in at hips, head low more frequently (could be associated with a side of stimulation; if it is side specific note the side) | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Breathing** |  |
| Normal quick breathing (hard to see) | 0 |
| Some panting/gasping (very big breaths that are easy to see in body/haunches) | 1 |
| Panting/gasping frequently or very robustly (very big breaths that are easy to see in body/haunches) | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Whisker Position** |  |
| Whiskers out almost 90 degrees from snout most of the time | 0 |
| Whiskers retracted sometimes but out half the time | 1 |
| Whiskers retracted during stimulation of that side consistently (if there is a side preference note the rat’s anatomical side that evokes the response) | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Whisking response/sniffing behavior** |  |
| Whiskers flicker regularly (only visible without stimulus or when switching sides) | 0 |
| Whiskers only flicker every now and then (not really linked to active stimulation on that side) | 1 |
| Whiskers not flickering at all or not much | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Evading stimulation** |  |
| Head and body movements not linked to stick or moving toward stick, Possible sniffing of stick, rearing on hind limbs, head sway (squinting) at stick | 0 |
| Movement away from stick a couple times | 1 |
| pushing stick with forepaws, clear head or body movement away from stick, hard bite of stick | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Response to stick presentation** |  |
| Normal movements either toward stimulus or not linked to stimulus | 0 |
| Moving away from stimulus | 1 |
| No response (sitting without moving) | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Grooming** |  |
| None or normal grooming of less than 30seconds that isn’t linked to stimulus | 0 |
| Grooming that lasts more than 30 seconds or is linked to stimulus with possible side preference (occurrences should be clearly divided by non-grooming for at least 10 sec) (if side preference note the side that elicits grooming from rat’s perspective) | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Ear Position** |  |
| Ears are up and twitching occasionally (should be able to see a bit into the ear canal) | 0 |
| Ears are up with some ears flat or forward (not much twitching) | 1 |
| Ears are flat back or far forward (can’t see into the ear canal) | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Sniffing** |  |
| Yes | 0 |
| Yes, but only 1-2 times | 1 |
| No | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Fur Ruffling** |  |
| Nice smooth fur | 0 |
| Fur is slightly frizzy looking | 1 |
| Fur is on end | 2 |
|  |  |
| **Urination/Defecation** |  |
| Count how many urine spots (>dime size) and poop pellets are on the pad at the end of the 5min trial. |  |
| no urine stains or poop pellets | 0 |
| 1-4 urine stains or poop pellets | 1 |
| 5 and > urine stains or poop pellets | 2 |

**Supplemental Table 1.** Scoring rubric for the Whisker Nuisance task.