

Supplemental Table
Comparison of the traditional and modified
versions of the Riker Sedation-Agitation Scale

Riker scale score		
Modified scale ^a	Traditional scale	Corresponding level of sedation/agitation
-3	1	Unable to arouse: minimal or no response to noxious stimuli
-2	2	Very sedated: arouses to physical stimuli but does not follow commands
-1	3	Sedated: awakens to verbal stimuli and follows simple commands
0	4	Calm and cooperative: awakens easily, follows commands
1	5	Agitated: anxious, attempts to sit up, calms down with verbal instruction
2	6	Very agitated: does not calm, requires physical restraints
3	7	Dangerous agitation: pulls at tubes and catheters, strikes staff, thrashes

^a This sedation-agitation scale was developed and used at the University of California, Los Angeles.