

Supplementary Figure S1: Body Condition Scoring



BC 1

Rat is emaciated

- Segmentation of vertebral column prominent if not visible
- Little or no flesh cover over dorsal pelvis, pins prominent if not visible
- Segmentation of caudal vertebrae prominent



BC 2

Rat is under-conditioned

- Segmentation of vertebral column prominent
- Thin flesh cover over dorsal pelvis, little subcutaneous fat, pins easily palpable
- Thin flesh cover over caudal vertebrae, segmentation palpable with slight pressure



BC 3

Rat is well-conditioned

- Segmentation of vertebral column easily palpable
- Moderate subcutaneous fat store over pelvis, pins easily palpable with slight pressure
- Moderate fat store around tail base, caudal vertebrae may be palpable but not segmented



BC 4

Rat is over-conditioned

- Segmentation of vertebral column palpable with slight pressure
- Thick subcutaneous fat store over dorsal pelvis, pins of pelvis palpable with firm pressure

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- Thick fat store over tail base, caudal vertebrae not palpable



BC 5

Rat is obese

- Segmentation of vertebral column palpable with firm pressure, may be a continuous column
- Thick subcutaneous fat store over dorsal pelvis, pins of pelvis not palpable with firm pressure
- Thick fat store over tail base, caudal vertebrae not palpable

Adapted from: Hickman D, Swan M. 2010. Use of a Body Condition Score Technique to Assess Health Status in a Rat Model of Polycystic Kidney Disease, [JAALAS 49\(2\) 155-159](#)