Category 0 (Healthy)

*Evasterias troschelii* (mottled star) can look quite “unhealthy” at low tide. The water often drains out of part or all of the animal, leaving it looking “deflated”. The stars’ mottled appearance also makes detection of lesions more difficult, so check carefully when assessing potential disease in this species.

Photos: Jeff Harris
Category 1

lesion(s) on 1 arm or body
Tissue degradation restricted to a single arm, or the oral disk.

“Deflated” appearance cannot be attributed to disease. Healthy animals often look “deflated” at low tide due to water loss.
Category 2

lesions on 2 arms or 1 arm and body, deteriorating arm(s)

Photos: Jackie Hildering; www.themarinedetective.ca

Tissue deteriorating on 2 arms

Tissue deteriorating on oral disk and possibly also arms? Difficult to tell for sure in this photo.
**Category 3**

Lesions on most of body, 1-2 missing arms

- Healthy (hard to tell from photo)
- Lesions on most of body
- Missing 2 arms
- Missing 1 arm
- Photo: Jeff Harris
Category 4
severe tissue deterioration/death,
>3 missing arms

Lesions/tissue deterioration throughout body;
borderline cat 3/4

Photos: Jeff Harris

Severe tissue deterioration, arms beginning to separate