PULHES SYSTEM OF INMATE MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CLASSIFICATION

PURPOSE: To provide medical and mental health information to authorized users via a medical classification system, and enable systemic tracking of the medical and mental health status of Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) inmates.

POLICY: TDCJ is committed to a standardized classification process of medical and mental illnesses which facilitates the assignment of housing, work, and programs that are compatible with each inmate’s health status.

PROCEDURE:

I. Following the health appraisal of inmates into TDCJ, the provider shall document diagnoses and limitations on the Report of Physical Examination (HSM-4) form. Based on the inmate’s medical and/or mental health condition the provider will assign diagnostic designators, codes for limitations and modifiers for indicating prognosis (see Attachment A). This is the PULHES system.

II. Whenever a provider makes a medical/mental health decision about an inmate’s current health status and functional level he/she shall review the PULHES for accuracy. If indicated the current designators, codes, modifiers, and diagnostic justifications for each PULHES factor will be updated to reflect this change in status. An order that reflects review of the entire PULHES form is required with every change.

III. The list of Restrictions should be reviewed and checked for congruity with the inmate’s PULHES. Changes shall be entered into the Electronic Health Records Restrictions Module, where they will be transmitted to the HSIN screen in the TDCJ Mainframe.