

CORRECTIONAL MANAGED HEALTH CARE PULHES

PULHES is a health classification system based on the structure and function of the body's organs and systems. PULHES is used to relay an inmate's medical, physical and mental health status to staff. The body's functions are considered under six factors that are identified by a letter designating a specific medical or mental health area. (See "Guidelines for Coding PULHES [Attachment B of this policy] for additional information.)

"P" describes the overall physical capacity of the inmate, including cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, nervous, hemopoietic and endocrine systems and other disorders that do not fall under other areas of the system. The inmate's physique and age are also considered in this category.

"U" describes the upper extremities (hands, arms, shoulders and upper spine) in regard to strength, range of motion and general function.

"L" describes the lower extremities (feet, legs, pelvic girdle, lower back and spine) in regard to strength, range of motion and general function.

"H" describes hearing acuity, diseases and defects of the ears.

"E" describes visual acuity, diseases and defects of the eyes.

"S" describes personality, emotional stability, intellectual functioning and psychiatric disorders.

Numbers (1 through 4) are used to reflect functional capacity in each PULHES category. The purpose of this system is to provide an index of overall functional capacity rather than the specific diagnosis or deficit.

"1" indicates all systems in that category are normal.

"2" indicates some medical condition or deficit that may require limitations.

"3" indicates one or more medical conditions or deficits that require significant activity limitations or accommodations.

"4" indicates significant medical, physical or mental impairment and strict limitations in work, housing and unit assignment.

Limiting factors are noted as alphabetical codes A, B, C, D, E, G, I, K, M, N and P. Refer to Attachment B for definitions of individual limiting factors.

Modifiers (P, R, T or H) identify the inmate's prognosis in each PULHES category.