

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE CMHS-M

General Information:

The CMHS is a tool designed to assist in the early detection of psychiatric illness during the jail intake process. The Research Team under the direction of Drs. Julian D. Ford and Robert L. Trestman at the University of Connecticut Health Center developed this Correctional Mental Health Screen for Men (CMHS-M) with a grant funded by the National Institute of Justice.

Instructions for administration of the CMHS-M:

Correctional Officers may administer this mental health screen during intake.

Name: Detainee's name- Last, first and middle initial
Detainee#: Detainee's facility identification number
Date: Today's month, date, year
Time: Current time (24hr or AM/PM)

Questions #1-12 may be administered as best suits the facility's policies and procedures and the reading level, language abilities, and motivation of the detainee who is completing the screen. The method chosen should be used consistently. Two recommended methods:

- Staff reads the questions out loud and fills in the detainee's answers to the questions on the form
- Staff reads the questions out loud, while the detainee reads them on a separate sheet and fills in his answers

Each question should be carefully read, and a check mark placed in the appropriate column (for "NO" or "YES" response).

The staff person should add a note in the **Comments** Section to document any information that is relevant and significant for any question that the detainee has answered "YES."

If the detainee declines to answer a question or says he does not know the answer to a question, do NOT check "YES" or "NO." Instead, record DECLINED or DON'T KNOW in the **Comments** box.

Total # YES: total number of YES responses

General Comments: Staff may include information here to describe overall concerns about the responses (for example: intoxicated, impaired, or uncooperative)

Referral Instructions:

Urgent Referral: A referral for **urgent** mental health evaluation may be made by the staff person if there is any behavioral or other evidence that a detainee is unable to cope emotionally or mentally or is a suicide risk.

Routine Referral: A detainee answering "**YES**" to **6 or more items** should be referred for **routine** mental health evaluation. A referral also may be made if the staff person has any concerns about the detainee's mental state or ability to cope emotionally or behaviorally.

****** If at any point during administration of the CMHS-M the detainee experiences *more than mild and temporary emotional distress* (such as severe anxiety, grief, anger or disorientation) he should be referred for immediate mental health evaluation.

Referral: Check the appropriate box for whether a detainee was referred. If referred, check URGENT or ROUTINE, enter the date of the referral and the mental health staff person or mental health clinic to whom the referral was given.

Person completing screen: Enter the staff member's name

Correctional Mental Health Screen for Men (CMHS-M)

Name _____ Last, First, MI	Detainee # _____	Date ___/___/____ mm/dd/year	Time ___:___
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QUESTIONS	NO	YES	COMMENTS
1. Have you ever had worries that you just can't get rid of?			
2. Some people find their mood changes frequently – as if they spend everyday on an emotional roller coaster. Does this sound like you?			
3. Do you get annoyed when friends or family complain about their problems? Or do people complain that you're not sympathetic to their problems?			
4. Have you ever felt like you didn't have any feelings, or felt distant or cut off from other people or from your surroundings?			
5. Has there ever been a time when you felt so irritable that you found yourself shouting at people or starting fights or arguments?			
6. Do you often get in trouble at work or with friends because you act excited at first but then lose interest in projects and don't follow through?			
7. Do you tend to hold grudges or give people the silent treatment for days at a time?			
8. Have you ever tried to avoid reminders, or to not think about, something terrible that you experienced or witnessed?			
9. Has there ever been a time when you felt depressed most of the day for at least 2 weeks?			
10. Have you ever been troubled by repeated thoughts, feelings, or nightmares about something you experienced or witnessed?			
11. Have you ever been in a hospital for non-medical reasons such as in a psychiatric hospital? (Do NOT include going to an Emergency Room if you were not hospitalized.)			
12. Have you ever felt constantly on guard or watchful even when you didn't need to, or felt jumpy and easily startled?			

TOTAL # YES: _____	General Comments:
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Refer for further Mental Health Evaluation if the Detainee answered Yes to 6 or more items OR If you are concerned for any other reason

- **URGENT Referral** on ___/___/____ to _____
- **ROUTINE Referral** on ___/___/____ to _____
- **Not Referred**

Person Completing Screen: _____