

Table I-7 Most Common Classifications of Protein-Energy Malnutrition

| | Normal | Mild | Moderate | Severe |
|--------------------|--------|-------|---|---------------------------------|
| Weight for height* | >90 | 80–90 | 70 to 80 | <70 |
| Weight for height† | | | $-3 \leq \text{SD-score}^\ddagger < -2$ | $\text{SD-score}^\ddagger < -3$ |
| Height for age* | >95 | 87–98 | 80 to 87 | <80 |
| Height for age† | | | $-3 \leq \text{SD-score}^\ddagger < -2$ | $\text{SD-score}^\ddagger < -3$ |

*Adapted from Waterlow JC. Classification and definition of protein-calorie malnutrition. *BMJ* 1972;3:566–69. With permission from the BMJ Publishing Group.

†Adapted from World Health Organization. *Management of Severe Malnutrition: A Manual for Physicians and Other Senior Health Care Workers*. Geneva: WHO;1999. p. 4.

‡SD-score = $\frac{(\text{Observed value}) - (\text{Median reference value from NCHS/WHO reference})}{\text{Standard deviation of reference population}}$