



New York State Department of Health Office Health Emergency Preparedness Transportation Assistance Levels (TALs) Informational Sessions

Overview

The New York State Department of Health's (NYSDOH) Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP) and the Office of Primary Care Health Systems Management (OPCHSM) have developed a standard Transportation Assistance Levels (TALs) system which was introduced in the 2009 Evacuation Update Project. The TALs classifications are for use by acute and non-acute healthcare professionals to assess the types of transportation resources needed during a planned facility evacuation due to any event.

Goal

To provide guidance on the revised standardized statewide transportation assistance levels (TALs) system for the movement of patients/residents during a facility evacuation.

Target Audience

Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Adult Care Facilities:

- Administrator/CEO
- Director of Nursing
- Nursing Supervisors
- Director of Resident Services
- Case Managers
- Director of Safety/Security
- Emergency Response Coordinator
- HPN Coordinator
- Plant Manager

NYSDOH Faculty

- Katharine Logan, Non-Acute Healthcare Preparedness Coordinator, Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP)

Dates (repeat sessions)

- January 6, 2015 @ 10:30am – 11:30am
- January 6, 2015 @ 1:30pm – 2:30pm
- January 7, 2015 @ 4:00pm – 5:00pm
- January 7, 2015 @ 7:00 pm -8:00pm

Registration

Click on <https://www.nylearnsph.com> and search Course Catalog for **OHEP-TALs-2014** (instructions below).

Questions Regarding Training

Direct questions to prepedap@health.ny.gov or 518 474-2893.

NYSDOH Learning Management System (LMS)

Direct questions to edlearn@health.state.ny.us or call 518 474-2893

To enroll in Transportation Assistance Levels (TALs) Informational Session click <https://www.nylearnsph.com>

1. If you have a LMS Username and Password then login and proceed to Step 3. If you do not have a LMS Username and Password then proceed to Step 2.

2. Select **CLICK HERE** to register and complete the registration form

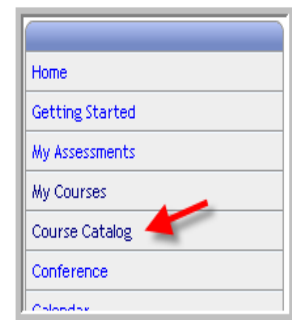
- Choose your own username & password
- Fill in all required fields, denoted with an asterisk (*)
- Please include your organization's name in the first line of your work address
- Birth year, while not required, is requested to help identify duplicate records
- Please include your Agency Information. Hospitals should choose "Other - Hospital" and Adult Care Facilities and Nursing Homes should choose "Other" from drop down menu.
- Click **Submit Your Registration**.



Search for and Enroll in OHEP-TALs-2014:

3. Now that you are logged into the LMS select **Course Catalog** from the navigation menu on the left side of the screen.

4. Enter course name **OHEP-TALs-2014** and then click "Search"



Search Catalog Query

Course Keyword Search:

Course Format:

Course Category:

5. After clicking "Search" you will be brought to another page. You should scroll down this page and click on Course Name **Transportation Assistance Levels Informational Sessions**.

Emergency Preparedness

Course Name	Course #	Formats	Completion Hours	User Rating
Transportation Assistance Levels Informational Sessions	OHEP-TALs-2014	WebEx	1	No one has rated this course.

6. Click **Enroll** button for training you wish to attend (you are not able to register for more than one training). Please note there are 4 trainings in descending order which are offered on different dates and different times.

OHEP-TALs-2014 Transportation Assistance Levels Informational Sessions

Enrollment Deadline	Section	Course Format	Start/End Dates	Meeting Times	Location	Instructor (s)	Speaker (s)
Enroll Ongoing	January 7, 2015 @ 4pm - 5pm	WebEx	1/7/2015 to 1/7/2015	Meeting Times			
Enroll Ongoing	January 7, 2015 @ 7pm - 8pm	WebEx	1/7/2015 to 1/7/2015	Meeting Times			
Enroll Ongoing	January 6, 2015 @ 10:30am - 11:30am	WebEx	1/6/2015 to 1/6/2015	Meeting Times			
Enroll Ongoing	January 6, 2015 @ 1:30am - 2:30am	WebEx	1/6/2015 to 1/6/2015	Meeting Times			

7. After clicking the **Enroll** button you will be taken to a page that confirms successful enrollment in the course.

Course Catalog - Registration

[Course Catalog](#) |
 [Program Catalog](#) |
 [Advanced Search](#) |
 [Recommended Courses](#) |
 [Required Courses](#)

You have successfully registered for OHEP-TALs-2014 Transportation Assistance Levels Informational Sessions. It is now part of your Current Courses in [My Courses](#).

8. **Once you are enrolled** you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive an email then you either entered wrong email address in the LMS or your server is blocking email.

Thank you for registering for the following New York State Department of Health Learning Management System (LMS) course:

COURSE NUMBER AND NAME: OHEP-TALs-2014 Transportation Assistance Levels Informational Sessions

You can access this course by logging into the New York State Department of Health Learning Management System (LMS) at <https://www.nylearnsph.com> and going to the My Courses page of the website.

TALs Guidance Document

Transportation Assistance Levels (TALs) Scale

Purpose:

To provide a universally recognized scale for the rapid assessment of the transportation assistance needs of patients/residents during a non-emergent, **planned evacuation**.

Principle:

For the purpose of an evacuation, patients/residents shall be assessed for their transportation assistance needs and assigned a level [TAL]. TALs are intended for use by any healthcare professional familiar with transportation modalities. TALs can be useful for logistical planning and movement of transportation resources (e.g. buses, vans, ambulances) during evacuation of a healthcare facility or home-bound patient. TALs are subject to change over time, but their use facilitates the staging of estimated transportation resources.

Objectives:

TALs provide a scale that is recognized and used statewide during a **planned evacuation** for the rapid assessment of transportation assistance needs of patients or residents. The scale can be used for planning and just in time re-assessment of patient/resident transportation assistance needs. The scale is not a clinical triage scale, nor does it prescribe care mechanisms. The continuity of clinical care is an independent issue and should be addressed concurrently with transportation modality.

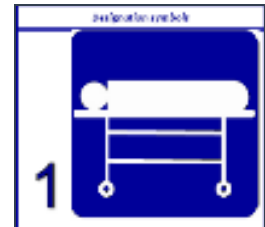
The potential for regional/local planning variations, while upholding the integrity of the core nomenclature, is recognized. This is particularly applicable to areas of the state that have diverse transportation issues such as rural environs as opposed to the more transportation rich suburban and metropolitan regions. Special circumstances will be considered and transportation complexity will be evaluated by individual healthcare facilities and/or regions.

Levels:

For the purposes of evacuation, patients/residents shall be categorized into one of three levels. The mobility level may influence the number of staff needed to transport the patient/resident, the type of movement device required, the loading area they are relocated to and the type of transportation asset required for evacuation. The following mobility levels shall be used:

Non-ambulatory [TAL-1]

Non-ambulatory patients/residents are those who require transport by stretcher. For emergency movement down stairs, they may be transferred to backboards, basket litters, or other appropriate devices, or rescue-dragged on their mattresses. **Note:** Rescue-drag is to be used as a last resort only. These patients/residents will be identified with a ‘gurney’ symbol when assessed for evacuation. These patients/residents are clinically unable to be moved in a seated position, and may require equipment ranging from oxygen to mechanical ventilators, cardiac monitors, or other biomedical devices to accompany them during movement. They may require clinical observation. These patients/residents may require two staff members (one clinical, one non-clinical) for movement, with additional staff as needed to manage life support equipment. Ambulance transport is required and in special circumstances (e.g. severe flooding) helicopter transport may be needed. These individuals must be accompanied by a clinical provider appropriate to their condition (e.g. EMT, paramedic, clinical staff member).



Wheelchair [TAL-2]

Wheelchair patients/residents are those who are unable to walk due to physical or medical condition. They are stable, without any likelihood of resulting harm or impairment from wheelchair transport or prolonged periods of sitting, and do not require attached medical equipment or medical gas other than oxygen or a maintenance intravenous infusion during their relocation or evacuation. These patients/residents will be identified with a wheelchair symbol when evaluated for evacuation. They can be safely managed by a single non-clinical staff member. They may be transported as a group in a wheelchair-appropriate vehicle (e.g. medical transport van or ambulette) with a single staff member or healthcare facility-designated person accompanying them.



Ambulatory [TAL-3]

Ambulatory patients/residents are those who are able to walk the distance from their in-patient location to the designated loading area without physical assistance, and without any likelihood of resulting harm or impairment. These patients/residents will be identified with a ‘walking figure’ when assessed for evacuation. Ambulatory patients/residents shall be escorted by staff members, but may be moved in groups led by a healthcare facility-designated person. The optimum staff-to-patient ratio is 1:5. They can be transported as a larger group in a passenger vehicle (e.g., bus, transport van, or private auto) with a healthcare facility-designated person accompanying them.

