

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Requestor:

Requestor Phone:

Requestor Email:

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 26 June 2018

Response Date: 3 July 2018

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

The requestor asked ASPR TRACIE for assistance in identifying resources for healthcare facilities (particularly LTC, nursing homes) that may be located near an interstate or other major transportation route where a chemical spill may occur due to a truck or train accident. They are interested in plans or procedures they can follow should this scenario occur.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team reviewed the [Long-Term Care Facilities Topic Collection](#) and [Chemical Hazards Topic Collection](#), as well as conducted a general online search. Section I includes resources specific to evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures for LTC facilities and Section II includes resources related to chemical hazards that may be relevant to your planning efforts.

I. Long-Term Care Facility Evacuation/ Shelter-In-Place

California Association of Health Facilities. (2011). [Long-Term Care Facility Evacuation: Planning Considerations.](#)

This resource provides suggested emergency operations plan components for the evacuation of long-term care facilities. It includes general and evacuation provisions, and physical plant, re-entry, and other considerations for widespread evacuation.

California Association of Health Facilities. (2012). [Long-Term Care Facility Evacuation Resident Assessment Form for Transport and Destination.](#)

This document is an assessment form for residents of long-term facilities who need to be evacuated and transported in an emergency. It provides information about three levels of care, facility type, transport type, and number of residents.

Florida Health Care Education and Development Foundation. (2008). [National Criteria for Evacuation Decision-Making in Nursing Homes.](#)

This resource provides criteria for evacuation decision-making in nursing homes and is intended to assist administrators and health care professionals determine whether to evacuate or shelter-in-place during disasters. It also includes guidance on the evacuation process.

Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency. (2012). [Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Guidelines for Healthcare Entities](#).

This guidance document is comprised of three parts. Part I provides general guidance on the differences between evacuation and shelter in place, including the roles and responsibilities of healthcare facilities and the healthcare system. Part II includes an evacuation and shelter in place plan template that healthcare facilities can use to create or update their own plan. Part III includes a set of two tabletop exercises (shelter-in-place and evacuation) that facility emergency planners may use in the planning phase as they develop their plans to identify needs, gaps, or solutions, and/or may use to educate personnel on the components of their existing plan.

Mather Lifeways Institute. (2008). [PREPARE Disaster Plan Template](#).

This planning document provides a template to assist long-term care facilities with all hazards emergency/disaster response plan development. Specific response considerations for evacuation, shelter in place, and chemical spill response are included within the template. Page 41 specifically includes a 10 Step Chemical Spill response guidance checklist.

Minnesota Department of Health. (2009). [Long Term Care Facilities Evacuation Tips](#).

This webpage provides tips to use when evacuating a long-term care facility, including points on how to keep the evacuation organized, while caring for the patients.

Minnesota Department of Health. (2011). [Long-Term Care Evacuation Job Aid: Threat Assessment and Decision Tool](#).

This resource includes a decision tool for long-term care facilities to use when assessing the incident to determine whether to evacuate or shelter-in-place. Job Aids are provided for Incident Command and other positions for actions to take during the situational assessment period through recovery. A priority list in which patients should be evacuated is also provided.

Mississippi State Department of Health Office of Emergency Planning and Response. (n.d). [Home Health Emergency Operations Plan Template](#).

This planning template provides non-acute care emergency preparedness planners with a customizable emergency operation plan template. The tool includes suggested emergency operations plan components for evacuation and shelter in place procedures.

Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System, Public Health Department; and Santa Clara County Emergency Medical Services Agency, Allied Healthcare Facilities Work Group. (2007). [Emergency Preparedness and Planning Toolkit for Long-Term Care Providers](#).

This toolkit provides checklists on various long-term care related topics such as, personal preparedness, emergency planning for healthcare facilities, emergency supplies, food supplies, transportation, and pandemic influenza planning and supplies checklists. It also provides tools for hazard and vulnerability analysis, guidance for home healthcare providers, plan templates, guidance for writing memorandum of understanding,

evacuation planning considerations, and a list of emergency preparedness courses and training.

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. (2013). [Emergency Operations Plan Development Guide and Template for Extended Care Facilities](#).

This emergency operations plan development template provides extended care facilities with all hazards (including shelter in place, and evacuation) planning guidance. The resource includes response, recovery and mitigation considerations, response job actions sheets, and hazard specific planning guidelines.

Section II. Chemical Hazards

Association of American Railroads. (2018). [AskRail](#). (Registration required.)

This app can give first responders real-time data regarding the type of hazardous materials a railcar is carrying, providing for a more informed response in the event of an emergency.

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. (2010). [NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards \(NPG\)](#). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This guide provides information on hundreds of chemicals/classes for workers, employers, and occupational health professionals. Information on medical treatment, personal protective equipment, respirator selection, and first aid is also included.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Chemical Hazards Emergency Medical Management (CHEMM). (2017). [Specific Populations](#).

This webpage describes the unique responses and/or needs of the following special populations during a chemical exposure event: seniors; infants and children; pregnant women and fetuses; persons with disabilities; and individuals with pre-existing disease(s)/altered metabolism.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. (n.d.). [Chemical Hazards Emergency Medical Management \(CHEMM\)](#). (Accessed 7/3/2018.)

This website provides a wide range of information on chemical hazards for first responders, healthcare providers, and incident command staff.

Van Sickle, D., Wenck, M., Belflower, A., et al. (2009). [Acute Health Effects After Exposure to Chlorine Gas Released After a Train Derailment](#). The American Journal of Emergency Medicine.

The authors discuss findings from a review of medical records and autopsy reports to describe the clinical presentation, hospital course, and pathology observed in persons hospitalized or deceased as a result of chlorine gas exposure after a train derailment in 2005.