

**Delegate Questions and SASWH Responses**

At SASWH's Annual General Meeting and Conference, a presentation provided delegates with an overview of enhancements underway to the Transferring Lifting Repositioning (TLR<sup>®</sup>) program<sup>®</sup>. Delegates were invited to submit questions and responses to those questions are provided here.

<b>Delegate Question</b>	<b>SASWH Response</b>
Could a specialized technique be developed, documented and trained for those times when only one staff is available to use a mechanical lift with a client?	TLR techniques for mechanical lifts are written for a minimum of two workers. With the 2016 enhancements, deviation from using two workers will require a specialized client mobility risk assessment, completed by the employer's designated team for a specific client. The specialized assessment process would include the team's development of the moving technique for the specific client, along with a process for communication and training. This process is not intended to address challenges with staffing levels.
A resource section for slings would be useful.	A recommended process is to check with vendors, communicate the needs to determine the most suitable and appropriate equipment. SASWH is considering providing some information on slings that would likely be via its website.
More education/information is needed on equipment and slings that are available.	There are a variety of vendors of equipment and slings. Currently 3sHealth has provincial contracts with three vendors for safe patient handling equipment. Working with vendors to select, and even trial, the equipment based on needs and safety of the clients and workers is recommended. Vendors would provide the training required on the equipment they provide.
Posters - core themes, 10 principles, body mechanics (stance and grip)	Currently SASWH offers Safety Talks as a means of awareness. Consideration will be given to creating other resources.
With new enhancements, is there going to be information provided to all TLR trainers?	The 4 <sup>th</sup> edition of TLR will be available for current trainers. SASWH will be planning informational sessions throughout the province where TLR trainers will be invited to attend and receive orientation to the enhanced program.

<b>Delegate Question</b>	<b>SASWH Response</b>
What is the recommendation for trainer recertification? 1, 2 or 3 years?	Currently the program indicates trainers are recertified every three (3) years and teach a general or re-evaluation session at least once a year. Employers do have the ability to tighten that timeline depending upon their need.
Will SASWH be providing Leading TLR sessions?	Yes, SASWH is responding to requests for this educational session. SASWH will be working with the regional TLR instructors regarding meeting the requests for Leading TLR.
Could “handling a Broda” be included with the resource manual? The use of tilt to take the weight off the front wheels and locking wheels to push the Broda down the hall reduces the strain on a worker’s shoulders and knees. An inservice from a Broda Representative and the information provided has been invaluable. It has made pushing and using a Broda so much easier.	Vendors would provide specific training on the equipment they offer and could be contacted for additional education sessions. The TLR program provides information on the moving task. The 2016 enhancements will include information on pushing/pulling that can be applied to a variety of equipment.
Why don’t all workplaces strive to have a TLR trainer?	SASWH encourages employers to invest in a TLR trainer to sustain and support the program.
Where would the Specialized Assessment be filed? In the patient/resident chart?	The Specialized Client Mobility Risk Assessment would become part of that client’s chart, just as the initial and ongoing mobility risk assessments are to be. Once the enhancements are complete, the tool and technique template will be available as they are part of the TLR program.
Is the client/patient/family involved in the decision on techniques?	The Principles of TLR (#4) states that it is important to communicate with, and listen to, clients and their family members. This may aid in establishing a level of comfort, safety and confidence.
Was there front line staff involvement in the changes to the enhancements?	A stakeholder survey was distributed throughout the province in 2014. Comments were received from all levels within organizations and all comments were reviewed and considered.
Do the clients/patients/families receive the information as to why such techniques need to be performed in such ways, so they understand the safety aspect for both the worker and client?	This would also be aligned with the Principles of TLR (#4) and would be determined by the employer’s process.

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Often family members ask/get “actively involved” in transferring, moving their loved one. Please provide words/guidelines around non-employees participating in client/resident/patient moves with staff.	The decision would be based on the employer’s process. The employer’s legal counsel may need to be consulted.
Should health regions train family members in TLR so they are safe to work with staff?	Again, the decision would be based on the employer’s process. The employer’s legal counsel may need to be consulted.
A TLR quiz could confirm knowledge/theory has been acquired by learner.	SASWH will consider developing a quiz/open book review to assist with confirming learning. Active participation in class is also a method to determine understanding. Support with transferring the classroom learning to the actual work, and be provided with time to practice, would also benefit workers as they begin to use the information received.
Comment on quality control for trainers - TLR Instructor should be required to observe new trainers conduct sessions/supervise teaching.	SASWH will discuss this with TLR Instructors at an upcoming meeting. SASWH does connect with a number of TLR trainers and offers this assistance; regional TLR instructors may also offer this assistance to their region trainers.

Please feel free to contact SASWH if you have questions regarding the programs, services and support available to its membership, or visit SASWH’s website at [www.saswh.ca](http://www.saswh.ca).

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