



Prior to September 11, 2006 the TAR tool was based on a color rating system.

- █ Green represented the highest level of preparedness planning
- █ Amber represented average
- █ Red was the lowest rating

The tool was changed to minimize the subjectivity of the review process.

Technical Assistance Review (TAR) Tool

The Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) has developed tools to evaluate state and local readiness to receive, distribute, and dispense Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) assets in the event of a national emergency. The review tools outline core functions identified in DSNS guidance documents and training classes and include key elements that are regarded as either critical or important to their preparedness planning.

The TAR tools evaluate the following areas:

- Developing an SNS plan
- Requesting SNS assistance
- Managing SNS operations
- Tactical communications
- Public information and communications
- Security
- Receiving, staging, and storing
- Controlling inventory
- Repackaging
- Distribution
- Dispensing
- Hospitals and alternate care facilities
- Training, exercising, and evaluating

OVERALL SCORE					
SECTION	FUNCTION	Points	Max Points	Section Fraction	Weighted Score
1	Developing a SNS plan	7			03
2	Management of SNS/Command & Control	6			10
3	Requesting SNS	6			03
4	Tactical Communications	6			03
5	Public Information and Communication	6			07
6	Security	6			10
7	Receipt, Store, Stage	24			14
8	Controlling Inventory	6			03
9	Repackaging	4			02
10	Distribution	8			10
11	Dispensing	9			22
12	Treatment Center	5			03
13	Training, Exercise and Evaluation	23			10
		Overall Score = Sum of 13 Function Scores =			

TAR tools are used to evaluate preparedness plans on the state and local levels.

TAR At a Glance

- Due to the sensitive nature of security related information, individual project area review reports are not disclosed to the general public.
- Ratings information will begin to be reported as of 2007 from the federal level.
- TARs aid in helping state and local governments find gaps in their planning efforts to receive SNS materiel.

State Technical Assistant Tool

Program service consultants with the DSNS visit 62 project areas annually to review their readiness to receive SNS materiel. The plans are assessed on a quantitative rating system that is based on a 100 point scale. If the state TAR is scored 69% or higher, then the next review is performed the following year. On the other hand, if the TAR is scored below 69%, then recommendations are made for improvement, and a follow-up review takes place within six months of the initial review. This methodology took effect as of September 11, 2006.

Local Technical Assistant Tool

The local TAR measures the plans of Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Metro Statistical Areas and the ability to ensure prophylaxis to their population within 48 hours in the event of a public health emergency. CRI areas scoring at least 69% or better are also considered to be within the acceptable range.

