



## eMOLST

### Electronic Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment

#### Overview

MOLST is a clinical process that emphasizes discussion of the patient's goals for care and shared medical decision-making between health care professionals and patients who are seriously ill or frail, for whom their physician would not be surprised if they died within the next year. The result is a standardized set of medical orders documented on the MOLST form that reflect the patient's preferences for life-sustaining treatment.

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) approved MOLST for statewide use in all settings in 2008. MOLST became a NYSDOH form in 2010. MOLST is the ONLY form approved by NYSDOH for both Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) and Do Not Intubate (DNI) orders. All healthcare professionals, including EMS, must follow MOLST orders in all clinical settings, including the community.

eMOLST is an electronic form completion and process documentation system for the NYSDOH MOLST form that is accessible at [NYSeMOLSTregistry.com](http://NYSeMOLSTregistry.com). eMOLST also serves as New York's MOLST Registry. eMOLST is a web-based application that includes programming to prevent errors. The application guides conversations between clinicians, the medical decision-maker and the family, helps clinicians follow the ethical framework & legal requirements for making decisions regarding resuscitation and life-sustaining treatment, and provides all necessary documentation. At the end of the eMOLST process, both a MOLST form and the appropriate MOLST Chart Documentation Form or OPWDD checklist are created. eMOLST works for all patients: adults, children and persons with developmental disabilities.

eMOLST may be used with paper records or integrated in an EMR or hybrid system. eMOLST forms are printed for needed workflow in the paper world. The system allows physicians to sign MOLST orders electronically. eMOLST ensures quality and patient safety, reduces patient harm and helps achieves the triple aim.

By moving the MOLST form to a readily accessible electronic format, health care providers, including EMS, will have access to MOLST forms at all sites of care including hospitals, nursing homes and the community. This approach will allow EMS to view and act on orders in the event of an emergency and allows other providers and systems to view and edit the eMOLST form at the time of need, as the same form and all documentation are shared across the care continuum.

#### Goals and Vision

- *Assure Accessibility* – Create an electronic registry.
- *Improve Quality Assurance* – Ensure accuracy of form completion through built-in quality controls
- *Build Quality Metrics* – Integrate outcome measurement and trend reporting.

#### eMOLST Application Functions

- eMOLST allows health care professionals to access the application to create, and complete the review and renewal process of eMOLST forms for patients.
- eMOLST works on tablets such as the iPad and Android-powered devices.
- The user can keep track of eMOLST forms completed for their patients and know which patients are ready for review and renewal of MOLST orders.
- Additional workflow features complement a team-based approach to end-of-life discussions and documentation of an individual's preferences for life-sustaining treatment.
- A PDF version of the form will be available to print, on pulsar pink paper, for the patient.
- Access and information transmitted through the eMOLST application complies with HIPAA, New York State Department of Health privacy rules and New York State Public Health Law.

For further information about eMOLST, contact Dr. Patricia Bomba, eMOLST Program Director, at [patricia.bomba@lifethc.com](mailto:patricia.bomba@lifethc.com) and Katie Orem, MPH, eMOLST Administrator, at [katie.orem@excellus.com](mailto:katie.orem@excellus.com).



## eMOLST

The Electronic Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment

### Why Do eMOLST?

#### Improves Quality Outcomes

- *Safe* – built-in quality controls for correct orders; does not allow for incongruous medical orders
- *Effective* – enables providers to follow clinical steps and meet legal requirements
- *Patient-centered* - goals for care guide choice of interventions
- *Timely* – web-based; assures accessibility across care transitions, including documentation of discussion
- *Efficient* – more time for discussion; less time for documentation, while ensuring accuracy
- *Equitable* –integrates needs of adults, minors, developmentally disabled who lack medical decision-making capacity; can be used in all clinical care settings

#### Improves Legal Outcomes

- Improves compliance with NYS Public Health Law (FHCDA, §1750-b)
- Ensures accurate documentation
- Reduces potential liability
- Reduces potential for DOH deficiencies

#### Improves Provider Satisfaction

- Easy to learn, easy to use
- DOH-approved process for conversion of paper MOLST to eMOLST
- Creates MOLST and MOLST Chart Documentation Form
- Helps providers learn complexities of NYSPHL
- Tracks when “Review and Renewal” is needed
- Opportunity to link eMOLST training and training for enhanced reimbursement model for thoughtful MOLST discussions

#### Provides System-based Solution for Health Systems

- Improves compliance of FHCDA, PCIA, PCAA
- QA/QI – members can access Analytics
  - Integrates outcome measurement and trend reporting
  - Allows access to aggregate de-identified data analysis
  - Data can be used for Joint Commission Advanced Certification in Palliative Care
- IT
  - Can be used with/without EHR and conversion
  - Web-based solution
- Improve financial outcomes
  - Meets CMS requirements for reimbursement
  - Tracks time spent and elements required for enhanced reimbursement model for thoughtful MOLST discussion

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