



ENABLING A PROVIDER-PATIENT CONNECTION IN END-OF-LIFE CARE

Patients facing a life-limiting illness want and deserve care that meets their end-of-life wishes. The new emPOLST app helps healthcare providers facilitate and preserve patients' expressed wishes in an easily accessible database.

Introducing

New Jersey's POLST program, or Practitioner Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment, has provided a standard statewide form for patients to speak with their physician or advance practice nurse to document their end-of-life care preferences. Now, the New Jersey Hospital Association, in conjunction with the N.J. Department of Health, introduces emPOLST – an electronic form for healthcare consumers – and the emPOLST app, which delivers an automation tool to providers to help them manage emPOLST forms within their organizations.

The emPOLST App

Designed with providers and their patients in mind, the emPOLST App supports the operational workflow required to create a patient's POLST form with a process that's intuitive and easier for physicians or advance practice nurses to obtain information.

Once completed, patients can give their clinical and non-clinical caregivers, like family and friends, access to their electronic POLST form through a mobile device so that all parties involved can understand the goals and wishes of the patient.

Information is maintained in a N.J. Department of Health authorized secure statewide emPOLST repository that's accessible to

physicians, APNs, licensed first responders, and other authorized clinical care teams.

With the emPOLST App, New Jersey's healthcare community can meet the needs of patients through these features/benefits:

- Streamlined POLST form creation process with an ADT web interface that transfers a previously registered patient's demographic information directly into the emPOLST form
- An easy backload tool that ensures all current POLST forms can be added to the new emPOLST statewide repository
- An annual affordable subscription fee that gives hospitals their own branded emPOLST portal with hospital logo and life-sustaining care content, giving the provider organization, and its patients, a complete service and mobile application offering
- Support and training, including an NJHA staff point person to coordinate with the hospital's IT teams to set up the VPN, ADT and EHR interface. NJHA provides an emPOLST customer support telephone line for patients and caregivers who need help with the emPOLST web portal or mobile application.

To learn more, contact NJHA Chief Information Officer Sean Hopkins at 609 275-4022; Shopkins@njha.com.