



ELECTRONIC MANAGEMENT OF PRACTITIONER ORDERS FOR LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT (emPOLST)

SPONSORED BY  NJ Health
New Jersey Department of Health

The New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services has funded this program, which is designed to encourage hospitals and long-term care facilities to enroll and participate in electronic management of Practitioner Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST).

A POLST is a medical order that is completed jointly by an individual and his/her physician, advance practice nurse or physician assistant. It documents the personal goals and medical preferences for patients facing serious illnesses and ensures that their wishes are explicit and respected. Hospitals and long-term care facilities that connect to the emPOLST portal and repository will gain access to a secure and streamlined flow of POLST orders that provide clinicians and caregivers from different facilities immediate access to their patients documented wishes at the time life sustaining treatment is needed. Once a care team completes the electronic POLST form with their patient they will be able to upload it to the state-wide secure shared repository through their EHR.

Why participate?

- Reduces administrative burden and error by auto-populating basic demographic data for each patient via the Master-Person-Index from the New Jersey Health Information Network (NJHIN)
- License fees for the emPOLST portal and repository are waived for the first year for all hospitals, and long-term care facilities are always exempt from license fees.
- Onboarding is made easy by NJII and the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA) who provide EHR/EMR integration, training and technical support at no cost to all participants.

Who is eligible?

Current program funding allows for the enrollment of 25 New Jersey hospitals. Long-term care facilities are encouraged to enroll at any time.

Timeline:

From the time an organization expresses interest, it takes an average of 60 days to complete the required legal agreements and technical onboarding process.

Deadline is September 2021.

Fees:

There are no license or implementation fees for the first year for the first 25 hospitals to enroll in this initiative.

Long-term care facilities located in New Jersey can always participate at no charge.

Those interested in joining should contact njhin@njii.com or complete our [online form](#).