



## Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) Update

June 2010

Physicians and all health care professionals practicing in New York State need to be aware that beginning today, a patient's family member - including his or her domestic partner - will be able to make health care decisions when the patient is not able to do so. June 1st is the date the Family Health Care Decisions Act (FHCDA) becomes law.

The New York State Department of Health updated the [MOLST form](#) in June of 2010 to make it more user-friendly and to align the form with the recently enacted Family Health Care Decisions Act (Chapter 8 of the Laws of 2010). Under the Family Health Care Decisions Act, the rules concerning medical orders issued based on the consent of surrogates have changed. Please consult with legal counsel or the appropriate official in your health care facility prior to using this form to record orders issued based on the consent of a surrogate. Note that the rules for decisions by health care agents based on health care proxies have not changed.

The Department is developing checklists setting forth the legal requirements for issuing orders with respect to life sustaining treatment using the [MOLST form](#). These checklists should be available by July 1, 2010.

The newly approved DOH-5033 MOLST form is posted on the NYSDOH public website at the following links:

[http://www.nyhealth.gov/professionals/patients/patient\\_rights/molst/index.htm](http://www.nyhealth.gov/professionals/patients/patient_rights/molst/index.htm)

<http://www.nyhealth.gov/forms/doh-5003.pdf>

Complete information on the FHCDA and MOLST updates can be found online at [CompassionAndSupport.org](http://CompassionAndSupport.org).

Please share this MOLST Update!