

MOLST Update

April 2006

Dear Colleagues,

The MOLST Pilot Project, permitting use of the MOLST form in lieu of the NYSDOH Nonhospital DNR Order form, will be launched on May 1. As indicated in prior emails, the newly revised MOLST forms should be used. The attached 8 Step MOLST Protocol distributed at the MOLST Conference outlines the communication process and is a useful tool for training. Continue to document conversations with patient and or surrogate in the medical record.

The delay in passage of the Chapter Amendment resulting in the repeated delays to the launch of the MOLST Community Pilot Project was discussed at the recent MOLST Community Implementation Team meeting.

The Chapter Amendment is stalled in the Assembly primarily because of issues that are unrelated to the MOLST Pilot Project Legislation and that are beyond our control to resolve quickly. We still anticipate passage of the Chapter Amendment that will allow EMS to follow DNI orders in the community in Monroe and Onondaga counties as part of the MOLST Pilot Project. I will be back in Albany April 10-11.

Members of the team recognize that legislation signed into law by Governor Pataki on October 11, 2005 allows use of MOLST form in lieu of NYS Nonhospital DNR in Monroe and Onondaga Counties. Currently, first responders and EMS have not been trained to recognize and utilize the MOLST form in the community. Training has been developed and has been on hold awaiting passage of the chapter amendment.

Consensus was achieved among those attending the meeting that EMS training ought to begin now to facilitate use of MOLST in Monroe and Onondaga Counties. Our EMS colleagues in both Monroe and Onondaga counties agree. There is support of REMAC in both counties. I have spoken with representatives from NYSDOH, including Ed Wronski (EMS) and legal counsel. They agree that EMS training can certainly go ahead with MOLST prior to the chapter amendment. As part of the training, EMS will be reminded that all EMS protocols allow for the contact of medical control for advice should they have a question about what kind of care they should provide to any given patient. Medical control physicians will be trained on MOLST as part of the planned community EMS training effort.

Please share this email with key health care professionals in your respective settings. As always, feel free to contact me with questions.

As noted in the first update, I have received increasing inquiries regarding the MOLST Program and the pilot project from identified MOLST champions and other key health care professional leaders in both Monroe and Onondaga counties, surrounding areas and from throughout the state. To facilitate communication on a timely and regular basis, I will send periodic updates on the MOLST Program. You have received this email because you have contacted me via phone call or email. Thank you for your interest in the MOLST. Feel free to share this email with others; they may contact me and be added to the distribution of these updates. *If you are **not interested** in receiving future updates, please let me know via email.*