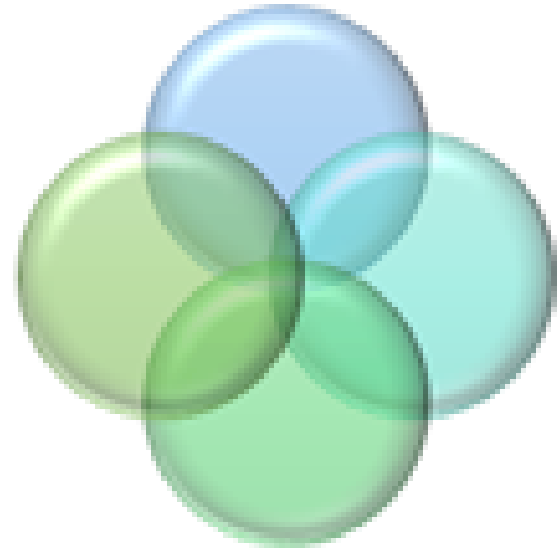


CHAMPION Care

Advisory Group

Wednesday, 29 October 2025



Today's Discussion

- Welcome
- Today's Topic: *MOLST - Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment*
- Thought Leader/Speaker: *Barbara Cass, CT DPH*
- Upcoming Schedule of Meetings/Calls



Today's Thought Leader

Barbara Cass, CT Dept of Public Health

**Senior Advisor to
the Commissioner
for Long Term Care
within the
Department of
Public Health**

Specialist in program development, management, and coordination for the CT Department of Public Health

RN and licensed health care provider with experience and expertise in the provision of inpatient palliative care in a hospital

Per Gov Lamont's office, Barbara was instrumental in the development of the nationally recognized COVID recovery center program and helped in guiding the state's decision-making during the COVID-19 public health crisis

Barbara currently serves on a CT DPH working group to define certifications and licensure for CT facilities; she also serves on the CT Palliative Care Advisory Council

MOLST: Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment

Barbara Cass, CT Dept of Public Health



History

On June 26, 2017 Governor Malloy signed into law Senate Bill 938, Public Act 17-70 "Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Recommendations for the state-wide adoption of the Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment" which authorizes the use of these Medical Orders throughout CT. In 2014 Special Act 14-5 "An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding Medical Orders For Life-Sustaining Treatment" was passed that gave the CT Department of Public Health (CTDPH) the authority to create a Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST) pilot program in selected areas of the state. The pilot program which was launched on April 16, 2015, National Health Care Decisions Day served 142 individuals in thirteen facilities and hospitals throughout the State.

What is MOLST?

- MOLST is a medical order form (similar to a prescription) that relays instructions between health professionals about a patient's care. MOLST is based on an individual's right to accept or refuse medical treatment, including treatments that might extend life. MOLST is not for everyone. In Connecticut patients approaching the end stage of a life limiting illness or in a condition of advance progressive frailty may discuss filling out a MOLST order with their clinician. The patient's decision to use the MOLST form is and must always be voluntary. MOLST is different from a health care representative form. It is recommended that all adults aged 18 and older complete a health care representative form to name the person who can make medical decisions for them in the future event of an unexpected illness or accident. It is also suggested that anyone with a MOLST form also fill out the health care representative form.

MOLST in CT

- The Connecticut MOLST was developed from the national Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) Paradigm. The Connecticut MOLST is a voluntary adjunctive planning tool to an advance health care directive. (Some patients may have already completed a living will and may have both documents). MOLST orders are for patients who are at the end stage of a serious life limiting illness or in a condition of advanced chronic progressive frailty as determined by a physician or advance practice registered nurse. The MOLST form documents patients' decisions in a clear manner that can be quickly understood by all providers, including first responders and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel. Based upon the ethical principle of respect for patient autonomy and the legal principle of self-determination, A "CT medical order for life-sustaining treatment" is a written medical order by a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant that records a patient's treatment preferences in writing on a bright green form approved by the CT DPH.

When is MOLST applicable?

- The MOLST form is completed after a conversation or series of conversations have taken place between the patient (and if the patient chooses their loved ones) and the patient's health care provider or providers. The MOLST is an actionable medical order that reflects the patient's goals of care for full medical treatment, limited medical treatment or comfort measures only. It is designed to enable patients to document their preferences for medical treatments as they near life's end, and assists their loved ones and health care providers to better understand the patient's wishes. The form identifies the patient's medical condition as well as their treatment preferences and goals and accompanies the patient across all settings. The documentation makes it easier for health providers at one care setting to know the wishes of a patient previously documented in another care setting.

Today's Discussion

Questions, Comments, Recommendations



Upcoming Meetings

(Calendar Invitations & Links Forthcoming)

Report Deadline

Action Team	Advisory Group	Feb 6, 2026
NOV <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11/5 - 1-2 p• 11/12 – 1-2 p DEC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12/3 - 1-2 p• 12/10 – 1-2 p JAN <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/7 - 1-2 p• 1/21 - 1-2 p FEB <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2/4 - 1-2 p	OCT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10/29 - 1-2:30p – Barbara Cass, MOLST NOV <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11/19 - 1– 2:30 p (<i>revised date</i>) DEC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12/17 - 1– 2:30 p (<i>revised date</i>) JAN <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/28 - 1– 2:30 p <div>Please Note: Revised dates in Nov and Dec avoid holiday conflicts</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final proposal is due to the CT Assembly by Friday, Feb 6, 2026