



**Comments on National POLST Form Navigator in Epic
from the Oregon POLST Coalition and Oregon POLST Registry**

February 2024

Epic recently announced the creation of a POLST forms navigator (Section 28001-MR), which allows clinicians to complete a POLST within the Epic foundation platform. The information released by Epic states that this form can be adjusted to align with state requirements.

While we support tools in the Electronic Health Record that improve documentation of POLST, we have significant reservations about whether the new Epic tool can be implemented successfully in our state.

Without guidelines in place to assure that the form adheres to Oregon requirements, we are concerned that the Epic POLST navigator would adversely impact patient care. At present, there is no structure in place to ensure that a POLST form completed using this Epic tool is sent to and accepted by the Oregon POLST registry. Further, there is no safeguard in place to align a POLST in Epic with a POLST on record at the Oregon POLST Registry. This could easily lead to a situation where a patient has conflicting POLST orders between the electronic medical record and the registry.

Until solutions are in place to assure that a POLST created using Epic tools has interoperability with the Oregon POLST Registry, we recommend that Oregon health systems using Epic do not implement the POLST navigator. Please know that work is in progress to provide solutions for interoperability in the creation and retrieval of POLSTs.

We are happy to be available for further conversation with regard to use of POLST in Oregon.

Sincerely,

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