# Advance Directives

A Landscape Overview

Work Funded By: The State of Connecticut Office of Health Strategy

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## Prioritizing Advance Directives as a Use Case

 Advance Directives/MOLST identified as a High Priority/Wave 2 Use Case by the HIT Use Case Design Group

October 2017

## March 2020

- COVID 19 confirmed in Connecticut
- Rapid onset
  - Patients unable to make health decisions
  - Family & caregivers unable to be present
- Heightened need for Advance Directives

- OHS Request: UConn Health team undertake a rapid landscape analysis
  - Advance Directives
  - MOLST/POLST in CT
  - Use case opportunities

April 2020

# Defining Advance Directives



#### **Advance Directive**

- Written statement of wishes for care
- A tool to ensure patients receive the medical care that they desire in times that they are unable to select for themselves

#### MOLST (Medical Order for Life Sustaining Treatment) / POLST (Physician Order for Life Sustaining Treatment)

- Intended for the seriously ill, signed by the clinician and the patient
- Effective immediately, regardless of patient capacity

#### **Living Will**

- Identifies life sustaining treatments patient would and would not want in the event they are not able to make their own medical decisions
- Identifies preferences for medical decisions, such as palliative care and organ donation

#### **Power of Attorney**

• Legal document, appoints an individual to make medical care decisions in the event the appointee cannot make their own

## Advance Directive Foundational Components

- living will
- durable power of attorney for health care





## The State of Advance Directives

Connecticut & Nationally

Research, surveys, and interviews reveal the landscape of advance directives, technologies, satisfaction, gaps, and needs in Connecticut, with a view of activities nationally.

## **MOLST**

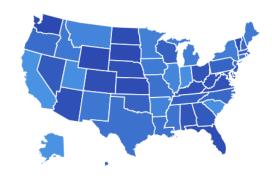
Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment

#### The State of Connecticut

Existing MOLST program Administered by DPH **Green Paper Forms** Patients must carry at all times Based on National POLST Paradigm Not endorsed by the National POLST Paradigm



One out of every 3 adults in the US have some form of an advance care plan.



**Primary Solutions Nationally** My Directives

• Advance Care Planning Registry

Vynca



## Components Reviewed



Patient Perspective



Provider Experience



Opportunity to Engage

Proxy Access
Ease of Use/Accessibility

Ease of Use/Accessibility

Current Arrangements
Prospective Arrangements
Willingness to Collaborate



**Tools & Capabilities** 



**Technical Specifications** 



**Business Model** 

Mobile Compatibility

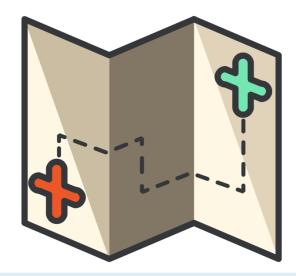
Documentation Types

POLST/MOLST Integration
EHR Integration
Document Creation
Data Transfer
Compliance

Current Customers
Stability
Revenue Model

## The Process

The team at UConn Health engaged in a research and evaluation process in the Spring & Summer of 2020 to identify and assess the three principal advance directive vendors used in the US.





#### Research

- Web Based
- Literature Review
- Legal



#### **Product Testing**

Demonstrations



#### Interviews

Product Reps



#### Survey

- Development
- IRB
- Deployment
- Data Collection



#### Analysis

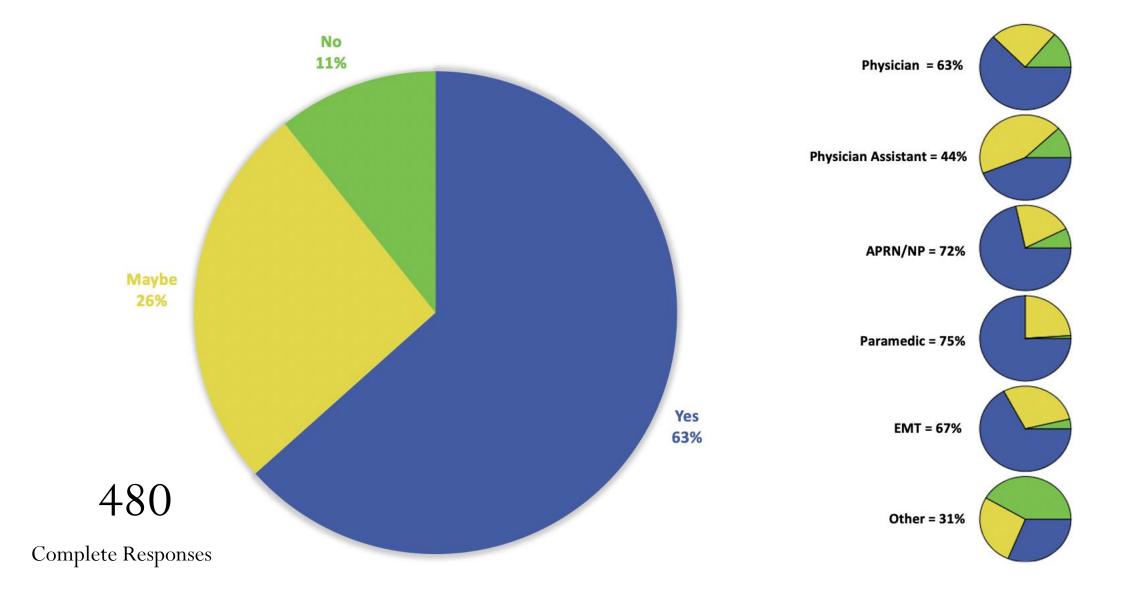
- Synthesis
- Qualitative
- Quantitative

# Findings

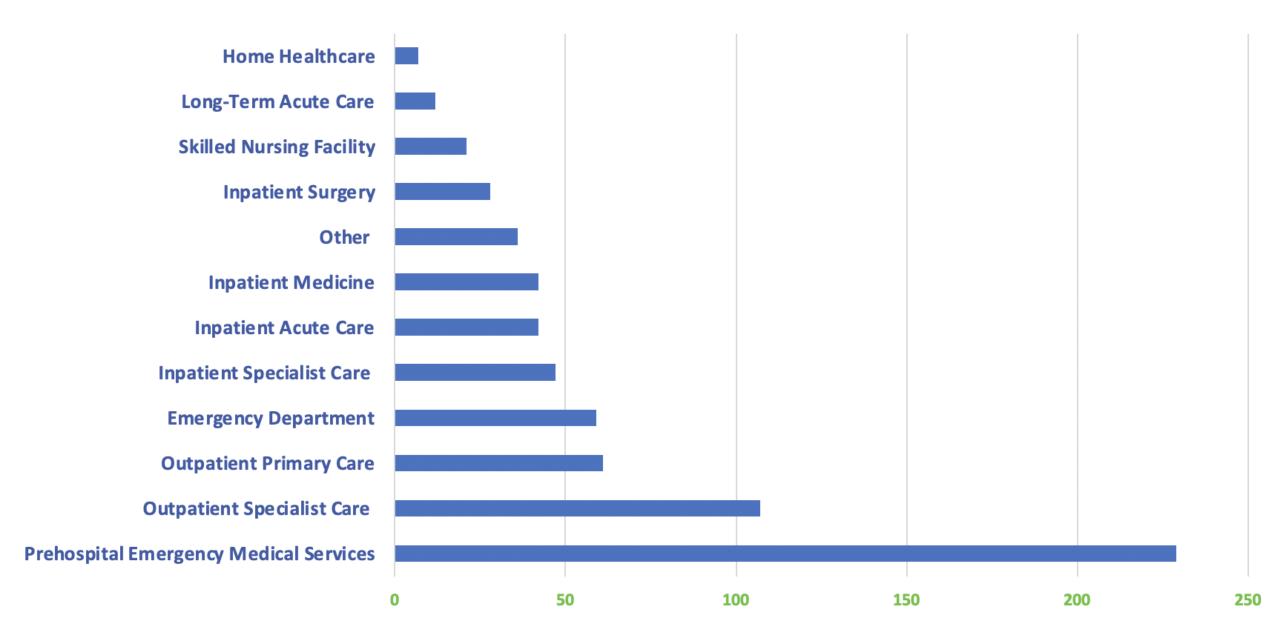
	Active in CT	Integration Capability (API or Web Services)	Documents can be uploaded	Patient Portal	Proxy Sharing	Fillable Documents	Interoperable Data	Exportable Data	Multi- Device Compatible	Stable Business Model	Opportunity to Engage
Vynca		J	J		J	J	J	J	J	J	J
Advanced Care Registry		1	1	J	J			J	J	J	1
MyDirectives		J	J	J	1	J	1	1	J	J	J

"There is substantial evidence that the treatment people would choose at the end of life commonly is different from the treatment they receive. Too often individuals receive more aggressive care than they desire...preferences for where they wish to spend the end of their lives are also often not met... there is an apparent need to improve end-of-life care in the United States."

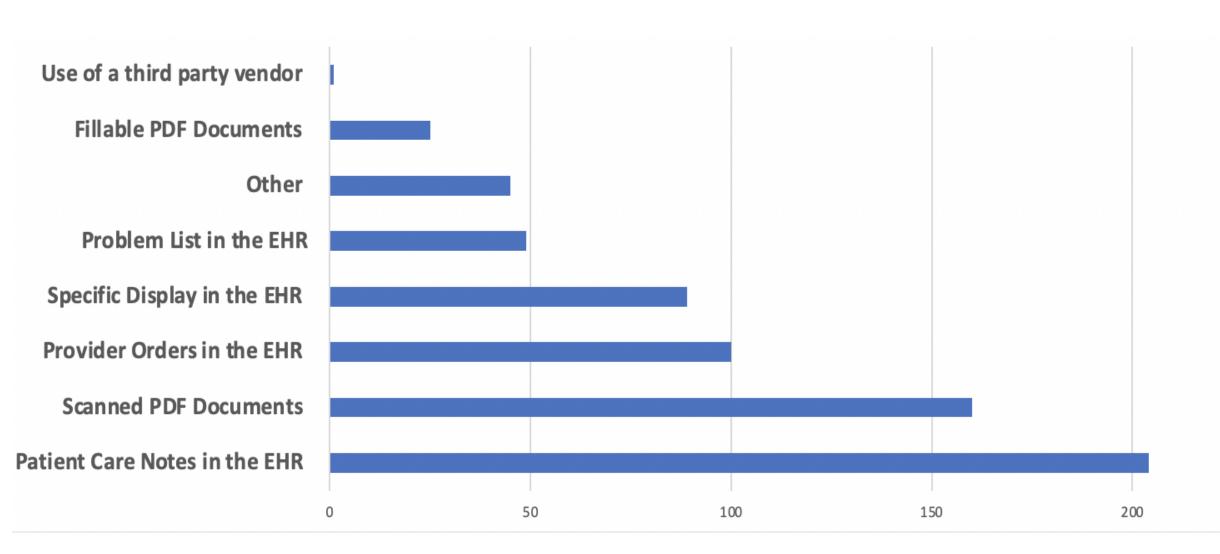
## Interest in Participating in a HIA Sponsored Solution



## Responding Provider Practice Setting



# Storing Advance Directives in the EHR: Possible Locations



# What Providers are Saying

"Family member on scene could not provide DNR order, senior living staff did not have a copy... life-saving measures were initiated. (patient) ended up in the ER for hours before passing ...." "many examples of when intervention (possibly futile) was provided because I was not able to access documents pertaining to patient's wishes or patient/family was not clear about the decisions already made."

"I have encountered several patients that have had procedures performed on them against their wishes... due to not having proper paperwork with the patient or not having the ability to contact the appropriate people who had the paperwork or information for the patient."

# Opportunity

- Facilitate the delivery of a significant, and needed service to Connecticut's residents, health care providers and health systems.
- Reduce unwanted, nonbeneficial care, financial burden and emotional distress
- Revenue Generation
  - Serve as a Reseller
  - Purchase Bulk Access
  - Purchase on Behalf of Residents

## Considerations

### Role of the HIE

- Consolidated Information Source
- Query & Retrieve
- SMART on FHIR
- Access: patients & providers
- Legislation
- Formal Use Case Development

## Technical & Policy

- Interoperability
  - Interface/Integrate
- Product Usability
- Reimbursement
- End Users
- Barriers & Interventions

# Next Steps



**Further Research** 



**Product Demonstrations** 



**Interviews & Data Gathering** 



Present to the OAC for Use Case Development



Identify Additional Stakeholders
ER Clinician
EMT/Paramedics
State Agencies



**Develop Survey Result Report** 



Evaluate HIE Integrations
Advance Directives
POLST
MOLST

## Questions

