

VotER



Emergency Department Based Voter Registration

PLATFORM OVERVIEW

Through a collaboration with Turbovote, a civic tech nonprofit that works to simplify the voting process, MGH Emergency Department (MGH ED) is working with a growing list of hospitals across the country to launch an ED based online voter registration platform called VotER. The VotER platform is a seamless, online, iPad based platform for low acuity patients to use to become registered to vote while they wait in the ED. The platform uses the online voter registration portals of Secretary of State websites across the country to get patients registered virtually. VotER help EDs offer a novel service to patients leveraging the time when they have patients in their departments.

VotER platform features:

- **Non-Partisan** – The platform is available to all patients regardless of party affiliation. As 501c(3) organizations, participating EDs offer the VotER kiosk as a nonpartisan service.
- **Non-interruptive** – ED clinicians' workflow is not interrupted as they are not involved in the registration process. Registration is entirely contained to the kiosk taking roughly 2 minutes.
- **Non-Urgent** – Patients access the iPad kiosks in low acuity or 'Fast Track' sections of participating EDs where these patients are not typically presenting for emergent complaints.
- **Voluntary** – Patients engage with the iPad kiosks on their own terms and on their own time while they wait.

Participating EDs receive:

- Pre-installed VotER kiosk, Apple iPad, and locks/power cords to maintain the kiosk
- Patient handouts and staff talking points
- Branded posters with access to the VotER registration site

Press and Explainers

Hospital PR: <https://www.massgeneral.org/news/hotline/HTL011020/voter>

The Boston Globe: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/01/13/opinion/er-sign-up-vote/>

explainer Video: https://www.dropbox.com/s/z7tt7w0zuybth32/VotER%20long_version2.mov?dl=0