

# National POLST Paradigm

## Featured News: Patient Choice and Quality Care Act of 2017



**A guide to the newly introduced bill impacting patient-centered care.**

On June 7 and 9, the Patient Choice and Quality Care Act (PCQCA) of 2017 was introduced in the House and Senate, respectively. [Read more](#). We suggest you [download and read this guide to the PCQCA](#): This PDF is a two-page, section-by-section guide that will help you understand and develop talking points about this bill. We expect that you will want to follow this bill, as it affects advance illness care and management, quality measures, facilities requirements, advance care planning (including advance directives and portable orders), and more.

## Featured News: Free POLST Webinar Series continues



**Register NOW: POLST in the Hospice setting (TODAY!)**

Today, on June 13, Kandyce Powell, RN, MSN and Jane Dorhmann, LISW, ACHP-SW, will present a webinar on *POLST in the Hospice Setting*. On June 8, 2017, Mercedes Bern-Klug, PhD, MSW, and Nicole Peterson, DNP, ARNP, presented *POLST in the Nursing Home Setting*. These talks are the last two of our ongoing POLST Toolkit Webinar series, all of which are being recorded for later viewing. [Read about the webinar series](#). [Register for the Hospice webinar](#).

## Featured Resource: National POLST Letters



**New web page features letters of support for various causes.**

The National POLST Paradigm has a new web page that contains various letters of support we have authored over the years. Recent letters include: Comments Regarding the Draft Principles for a Person-Centered Approach to Serious or Advanced Illness (May 2017), and Support for the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA) (March 2017). Expect a new one about the Patient Choice and Quality Care Act of 2017 within the next few days. These letters may help inform you about current and past policy development, and how we believe they would best be shaped in order to benefit patients at the end of life. [View web page](#).

## Featured Publication: Allow Natural Death v. Do Not Resuscitate



**Is it better to say "AND" rather than "DNR"?**

In their Letter to the Editor, *Clarity or Confusion? Variability in Uses of "Allow Natural Death" in State POLST Forms*, Dan Chen, MD, and Daidre Azueta, MD, discuss the pros and cons of the phrase "Allow Natural Death (AND)" versus "Do Not Resuscitate (DNR)" on POLST Forms. While sometimes considered more acceptable, the authors concluded that AND is not well-standardized, which could create confusion, especially if POLST Forms from one state were to be interpreted in another. [Read more](#). [View article online \(limited access\)](#).

## National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

**Congratulations, Indiana POST!** On May 18, the National POLST Paradigm Task Force endorsed Indiana's POLST Paradigm Program, known as POST (Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment). [Learn more about Indiana POST](#). [View POLST Map](#).

**UPDATED: Appropriate POLST Paradigm Form Use Policy.** The National POLST Paradigm Appropriate POLST Form Use document has been updated to include a new paragraph about

patient surrogacy. [Download the PDF.](#)

**Watch POLST Toolkit Webinar Series recordings online.** The webinar series on *Using the POLST Paradigm to Honor Patient Wishes Across the Care Continuum*, is being made available online as each webinar is produced. Currently, the overview as well as the four of the five webinars focused on specific care settings (Primary Care, EMS, Inpatient Hospital, and Nursing Home) are now available at our [Toolkit webpage](#). All are free, but please send us your info (name, title, organization) to help us understand who we reach.

**Oregon POLST publishes Spanish POLST video.** *Quitarles a sus seres queridos un peso de encima con el formulario POLST, or Taking a burden off your loved ones with the POLST Form* is an educational tool for Spanish-speaking patients. After being diagnosed with cancer, Gladys shares her experience with using the Physician's Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) to choose some treatments and refuse others. [View the new video.](#)

**Join discussions about POLST via our online forum.** The National POLST Paradigm launched an online forum for POLST Program Leaders and those interested in developing regional POLST Programs. This forum is private and we want it to develop into a place where health care professionals freely ask questions about the POLST Paradigm in seeking and sharing fruitful discussion about best practices. Interested? [Email us](#) with information about your role and where you work, and we will connect you with your state leaders as a first step in helping you get connected.

**Get trained at California's POLST: It starts with a Conversation - Train the Trainer workshops.** The Coalition for Compassionate Care of California has been holding their POLST *Train the Trainer* workshops on a semi-annual basis for years, drawing participants nationally, as they are well-respected by POLST community at large. The next training is slated for June 29-30. [Read more.](#) [Register online.](#)

