

# National POLST Paradigm

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## Dear Friends,

This month I want to express gratitude for how wonderfully we have been working together to move things forward. Due to strong relationships among our POLST Paradigm leaders, we are achieving so much! State coalitions, thank you so much for your responsiveness to our recent surveys we've sent out; your participation is critical to helping us determine how best to plan and better support POLST Paradigm Programs currently and in the future.

Many of you are helping us develop the POLST Paradigm Toolkits, *Using POLST To Honor Patient Wishes Across the Care Continuum*, and we thank you wholeheartedly for your assistance. In fact, if anyone else would like to contribute documents, suggestions, or information for these Toolkits, please send it to us at [admin@polst.org](mailto:admin@polst.org). We have sections touching on primary care practices, long term care (nursing homes, LTCs), hospice, hospitals and emergency/trauma settings and are looking for best practices, policies and other guidance materials for each.

Finally, I'm excited about our opportunities to collaborate with [The Pew Charitable Trusts](#) and [The John A. Hartford Foundation](#). The generosity and support of these organizations is greatly aiding implementation of our strategy (see our [News story](#)), and building the strength of the National POLST Paradigm.

Take care,



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### News Spotlight



**National POLST Strategy approved**

### Essential Resource



**Working together: LA Times Op-Ed**

### Featured Research



**POLST Use in CA Nursing Homes**

On May 4, 2016, the National POLST Paradigm Task Force approved a new business strategy for the National POLST Paradigm. This strategy was presented at the 2016 National POLST Paradigm Conference.

Recently National and California POLST Paradigm advocates worked together in coordinating a response to an Op-Ed published in the LA Times. Keep in mind that the National POLST Paradigm Office can be a resource for your program, too!

A recent study showed that POLST use has become widespread in California nursing homes. No racial disparities were found, but there was great variation in POLST utilization rates across facilities within California.

Strategy Details

Read Full Story

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## National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

**In honor of June being Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month**, we recommend reviewing the November 2015 webinar presented by [Kenneth Brummel-Smith: \*The Role of POLST in the Care of People with Dementia\*](#).

**New York's eMOLST Registry Webinar.** Presented May 25, 2016, by Pat Bomba, MD, FACP, and Katie Orem, MP, this webinar will be available online soon. [See original announcement.](#)

**West Virginia Nurse Practitioners to be able to sign POST Forms.** Thanks to Governor Tomblin's signing of House Bill 4334, close to 2000 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses will gain authority to sign Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) and Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST) Forms on June 10, 2016. [WV's Facebook post.](#) [Legislative info on HB 4334.](#)

**POLST FAQs, updated, online.** A handy reference in answering Frequently Asked Questions about the POLST Paradigm, including: *What is POLST? For whom is POLST appropriate? What are the differences between a POLST and DNR? Do I need both a POLST and an Advance Directive?* [View the updated POLST FAQs PDF.](#)

**Federal legislation in the works supporting End-of-Life Care planning:** *The Compassionate Care Act of 2016* (S. 2961) was introduced on May 20, 2016. This is a piece of bipartisan legislation focused on educating the public and providers on advanced illness care and care planning. It also requires the development of end-of-life quality measures. [View Press Release.](#)



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