

National POLST Paradigm

Dear Friends,

Happy September! I hope you all have had a good summer. It has been a busy and productive time for the National POLST Paradigm: We launched [our new, fully redesigned website](#), we've been building relationships, and gathering momentum for the Paradigm! Some quick updates:

First, thank you to all those who helped us by participating in our surveys — this information helps us better understand the current perspectives and status of the POLST Paradigm across various state POLST Paradigm Programs, and it helps improve the National POLST Paradigm itself.

Secondly, thank you to The Pew Charitable Trusts! They invited me to present the POLST Paradigm during the “Improving End-of-Life Care: The Better End” lunch session at the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Legislative Summit in August; this is the biggest gathering of state legislators in the country and was a great opportunity to educate!

Finally, many of you have heard about *Extremis*, a Netflix short documentary following staff and families of two patients at the end of their lives in the ICU. While the POLST Paradigm isn't mentioned, this film can be used to emphasize the importance for having a quality of life conversation with family before it's too late. [You can preview the *Extremis* trailer here](#); to watch the 24 minute film you need to have a Netflix subscription (or a friend with one!).

Take care,



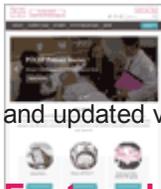
Amy Vandembroucke, JD

Executive Director, National POLST Paradigm

Featured News: *We launched our new website!*

New National POLST Paradigm Website Launched! We did it!

The new website: separates patient and professional information; navigation has been entirely reorganized; the POLST Paradigm state map is redone with easy-to-



download PDF; more space is dedicated to public education including topics like Advance Directives, Advance Care Planning, and other FAQs; and newly available are our eNewsletters archives, media information, and better-organized and updated video and resource libraries. [Check it out](#) and [email us your feedback!](#)

Featured Resource: **Updated POLST FAQs online for you.**



FAQs for Patients — and separate FAQs for Professionals — now available.

To help provide clarity to the most commonly raised questions about POLST, such as, **What is POLST?** and **Does POLST replace an Advance Directive?**, we've compiled separate FAQs for patients and health care professionals available on our newly redesigned website. We hope it's a useful and convenient resource for you! [View Patient FAQs](#) or [View Professional FAQs](#).

Featured Research: **Legal perspective on POLST progress.**



"Overcoming legal impediments to POLST" published in AMA Journal of Ethics.

Marshall Kapp, MD, provides an encouraging and insightful view of the efficacy of POLST. The paper provides historical and legal perspective assuring clinicians that POLST is not only generally medically valid, but valuable and underutilized, with the fear of legal risk of retaliation notably unsubstantiated. In contrast, families have been increasingly taking legal action when *unwanted* medical interventions are applied, rather than the opposite. The article is timely in its hopeful vision and its call to action in support of the POLST Paradigm. [Download free PDF.](#)

National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

Funding established for pilot POLST eRegistry in California. The California HealthCare Foundation (CHCF) has approved a two-and-a-half year project to help develop an electronic POLST (Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) registry. [Read more.](#)

New Louisiana LaPOST Form available in English. Revised LaPOST statute was signed into law on June 13, 2016, formalizing revisions in the LaPOST Form. French, Spanish and Vietnamese translations coming soon. [View Legislative Details.](#) [Read more about LaPOST.](#) [Download Revised LaPOST Form \(PDF\).](#)

Webinar: Frailty and Mortality—How are They Linked? On September 14, 2016, Kenneth Brummel-Smith, MD, presented an hour-long webinar, *Frailty and Mortality—How Are They Linked?* [Learn more.](#) [View webinar on YouTube.](#) [View list of all POLST Webinars.](#)

Successful POLST Webinar in Maine. On September 6, 2016, Elizabeth Hart, MD, co-founder of the Maine POLST Coalition, presented a webinar on *POLST: Cultivating Meaningful Conversations and Documenting Patients' Wishes.* [Read More and Access Presentation Materials.](#) [Watch webinar on YouTube.](#) [View Main POLST Website.](#) [View all POLST Webinars.](#)

Amy Berman awarded honorary doctorate Amy Berman, RN, Senior Program Officer at The John A. Hartford Foundation, nurse and champion for improving the care of older adults, received an Honorary Doctorate from Quinnipiac University on May 22, 2016. Ms. Berman also delivered a Commencement address to the university's undergraduate School of Nursing. [Read more.](#) [View press release.](#)



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