

National POLST Paradigm

Featured News: Advanced Illness main theme in top journals



Health Affairs and *AMA Journal of Ethics* devoted July issues to Advanced Illness

A testament to the recognition these important topics deserve, the July 2017 issue of the [American Medical Association Journal of Ethics](#) is devoted to **Quality of Life in Dementia**, and likewise, the July issue of [Health Affairs](#) is focused on **Advanced Illness & End-Of-Life Care**. Sample articles: [Dying on Her Terms \(Getting it Right at the End of Life\)](#) from *Health Affairs* and [Dementia, Society, and History](#) from the *Journal of Ethics*. [Read More](#).

Featured Resource: POLST Technology



New National POLST Technology web page!

The National POLST Paradigm has published a [web page exclusively addressing POLST and Technology](#). Subtopics presented include: POLST in Electronic Health Records, POLST Registry Development, and ePOLST. A collection of resources, including external web sites, online videos, and various PDFs are available. New data collected by the National POLST Paradigm Office are published in the [ePOLST Matrix](#) (PDF) and the [POLST Registry Matrix](#) (PDF), describing and comparing what is currently known to exist nationwide across POLST Programs. [View POLST Technology web page](#).

Featured Research: POLST Form quality



The Quality of POLST Completion to Guide Treatment in Two States.

Alvin ("Woody") Moss, MD, Dana Zive, MPH, Evan Falkenstine, and Courtney Dunithan, MSW, authored a Brief Report published in JAMDA, in which they analyzed the quality of POLST Forms in both the Oregon and West Virginia POLST Registries. Specifically, POLST Forms were reviewed for resuscitation (Section A) and level of medical intervention (Section B) completion, and whether the orders in these sections were with or without contradictions. [Read more](#). [View the article online](#) (limited access).

National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

Arkansas steps up! The National POLST Paradigm is excited to welcome Arkansas as our newest Developing POLST Program! Arkansas fulfilled the criteria for a Developing Program on June 13, after having passed legislation earlier this spring in support of POLST. Congratulations, Arkansas! [View POLST Map](#).

Physician Assistants to be able to sign POLST Forms in West Virginia. Senate Bill 1014 was signed by Governor Jim Justice during the 2017 legislative session allowing signatory authority for physician assistants in West Virginia for POST (Physician Order for Scope of Treatment) Forms. This new law will go into effect 90 days after passage on September 7, 2017. [Read Op-ed about this WV Bill](#). [View legislative info about SB 1014](#). [View text of SB 1014](#).

POLST Care Continuum Toolkit update. The entire webinar series on *Using the POLST Paradigm to Honor Patient Wishes Across the Care Continuum* is available online at our [webinars web page](#), including an overview and five practice-specific webinars. All are free, but please email us your info (name, title, organization) to help us understand who we reach. The toolkit itself, currently awaiting final approval from our sponsor, will be available sometime in the coming weeks at our [toolkit web page](#). Questions? Email us at toolkit@polst.org.

North Dakota POLST progress! North Dakota's POLST Program's efforts have resulted in a new [website](#). Keep up the great work, North Dakota!

New POLST Videos for Chinese-speaking patients and loved ones. Sandy Chen Stokes, founder of the Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care, was interviewed by UChannel TV and those interviews are now available through YouTube. [Watch the video](#) (YouTube, 25 min).

Oregon POLST Registry upgraded. The Oregon POLST Registry has upgraded their system, providing automated, immediate access of patient POLST Forms to Oregon Health & Science University health care professionals, regardless of the origin of the POLST Form within the state. [View press release](#).

