National POLST Paradigm: POLST Adoption by State

As of April 2018

This map shows the general availability regarding the adoption of the POLST Paradigm within a state.

At www.polst.org/map POLST Program designations (developing, endorsed, mature) can be found. Of those designations, only mature status provides any indication about the level of POLST Paradigm penetration or adoption within a state. Since more than just level of penetration of POLST forms is necessary for a state to receive mature status designation, and since the National POLST Paradigm receives many questions about where individuals can access the POLST Paradigm or how widespread it is within a state, this map was created.

For this map, POLST Program leaders were asked to use the following definitions and provide their assessment about the level of adoption of the POLST Paradigm within their state:

- **Statewide:**
  - More than 75% of Emergency Medical Service agencies have protocols that recognize and honor the state POLST Form.
  - POLST is the standard preferred practice statewide for process of advance care planning for persons of any age with serious advanced illness or frailty whose health care professionals wouldn’t be surprised if they died within the year.
  - For each region of the state, defined by EMS, DHS or Dartmouth Atlas, POLST forms are used in 50% or more in each: hospital, nursing home or nursing home resident population, and hospice.

- **Working /Towards Statewide Availability.** There is greater availability/adoption of POLST than just in pilot programs or specific regional areas.

- **Pilot Programs or Limited Availability.** The POLST Paradigm is being piloted in specific areas or is only available/adopted in certain regions.

- **Not Yet Available.** The POLST Form is not yet in use in any pilot program.

If you have any questions about how your state is listed, contact admin@polst.org or your state leader (click on your state at www.polst.org/map for contact information).