

# National POLST Paradigm

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**Dear Friends,**

Thank you for all the work you do to promote and protect the National POLST Paradigm—you are the stewards, helping ensure people understand the Paradigm, its value in protecting patient autonomy, and its place in advance care planning.

I heard a disturbing story recently where a conference presenter was misrepresenting what a POLST Paradigm form is—and even proudly indicating they ignored these forms in the field!

Remember—if you “see something, say something”! We are all responsible for making sure the POLST Paradigm is appropriately shared. If you are at a conference, consider the best way to correct the information quickly—educating in the moment is the best response. I encourage you to contact the appropriate state leader (found on our [online map](#)) or the National POLST Paradigm Office with the information so that there can be additional follow up and education.

Education is not only broad and at a national level, but something everyone can do at a local, personal scale — at the events you are attending, among friends and families, among patients and administrators, etc. Together we can help eliminate these situations. Thank you for all you do!

Take care,

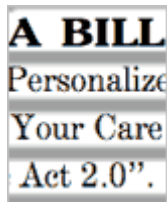


**Amy Vandembrouke, JD**

Executive Director, National POLST Paradigm

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## Featured News



### Personalize Your Care 2.0 Bill Introduced

Personalize Your Care Act 2.0 was introduced June 22, 2016, by Congressmen Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and Phil Roe (R-TN). PYCA 2.0 proposes to increase accessibility to and public awareness of advance care planning and includes explicit mention of POLST (Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) as an element of advance care planning. [Read more](#), [View the Letter of Support from The Pew Charitable Trusts](#), and [Send in your own Letter of Support for this bill](#).

**Senate Special Commission on Aging Hearing**



On June 23, 2016, a Senate Special Committee on Aging hearing was held, "The Right Care at the Right Time: Ensuring Person-Centered Care for Individuals with Serious Illness." A Member Statement from Senator Susan M. Collins (R-ME), and Witness Testimony from Atul Gawande, MD; Kate Lally, MD; and Amy Berman, BSN, LHD, are available online, as well as a videorecording of the hearing. [Read more and Access the videorecording of the hearing. Witness Testimony, and Member Statements.](#)

## Featured Research



### Study compares POLST registry data in Oregon and West Virginia

An article was published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, "Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment Medical Intervention Orders and In-Hospital Death Rates: Comparable Patterns in Two State Registries," which compares POLST registry data between Oregon and West Virginia, which differ in POLST demographics as well as in the approach to electronic Registry system. [Learn about the findings here.](#)



### Letter to the Editor explains evidence supporting POLST.

Published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, a Letter to the Editor from Susan Tolle, MD, Alvin "Woody" Moss, MD, and Susan Hickman, Ph.D., explains the body of evidence supporting POLST. [View JAMA Letter \(limited access\).](#)

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## National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

**Practice Change Leaders (PCL) for Aging and Health applications due in August.** PCL is for leaders in health care devoted to improving care for older adults. Successful applicants receive \$45,000 and training to further develop their leadership skills. Past awardees include: [Amy Vandebroucke, 2015](#) and [Judy Thomas, 2016](#), and [Judy Black is a Senior PCL](#). [Visit the Practice Change Leaders website.](#)

**Progress in Louisiana's POLST Paradigm Program, LaPOST!** Revised LaPOST statute was signed into law on June 13, 2016, formalizing revisions in the LaPOST Form. Great work, Louisiana! [View Legislative Details of LA SB360.](#) [Read more about LaPOST.](#)

**New York's eMOLST: Webinar available online.** Presented May 25, 2016, by Pat Bomba, MD, FACP, and Katie Orem, MP, this webinar recording is available online, describing New York's POLST Paradigm Program, called MOLST, and eMOLST, its associated electronic registry system. [Learn more](#) or [Watch webinar on YouTube.](#)

**Revised Illinois POLST now available in Spanish.** The Illinois Department of Public Health Uniform Practitioner Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment Form, or [Illinois POLST Form](#), updated last January to remove "DNR" from the title of the form and around the border, is now [available in Spanish](#). [Read more about Illinois POLST.](#)

**Georgia POLST available in Spanish.** The Georgia POLST Form is now available in Spanish. [View the Spanish version of the Georgia POLST Form.](#) [Visit the Georgia POLST website.](#)



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