

# National POLST Paradigm

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## Forum Topic of the Month

### [Does CPR Require Choosing Full Treatment? Is a CPR-CMO order set appropriate?](#)



*About the Forum:* The National POLST Forum is a great way to discuss any POLST topic anytime with colleagues locally or across the nation. It is a closed online discussion board for POLST advocates and health care professionals participating in their state POLST Program. To request access, please email us at [info@polst.org](mailto:info@polst.org), giving us your full name, title/organization and state in which you practice.

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## Featured News



### National POLST Paradigm website continues to grow!

[Our website](#) continues to present more information about POLST from a National perspective. The newest web page is the [Governance web page](#), which introduces our [Strategic Plan](#), which in turn discusses our vision and mission, and more. Other recent additions include: the [POLST Technology](#) page and updates to the [Policy page](#). And did you know that the following are regularly updated as we get new material?: [Resource Library](#), [Newsletter Archive](#), [Research](#), [Webinars](#), and [Toolkit](#) (this year's special project, nearly complete).

## Featured Resource



### POLST and Code Status: One resolution

A recurring question that arises is whether a POLST Form should be used as a Code Status form. Recently, in Oregon, the Oregon POLST Coalition put forth an official recommendation "integrating a standard code status section on hospital transfer forms instead of using POLST orders routinely for those going to facilities. This is primarily an issue for patients going for short term rehab. These transfer forms would replace the POLST forms for patients who are not POLST appropriate and/or have not had a thoughtful goals of care conversation." What do you think? Would this work in your facility? Please [discuss this topic in the National POLST Forum](#) (limited access, see above to apply for an account). View the [Short Version](#) and [Long Version](#) of the recommendation put forth by Oregon.

## Featured Research: *Journal of Oncology Practice*



### Use of POLST and Quality Metrics in Patients With Cancer

Research by Sandra L. Pedraza, Stacey Culp, Mark Knestruck, Evan Falkenstine, and Alvin H. Moss recently published in the Journal of Oncology Practice examined whether advanced cancer patients were more likely to avoid unwanted aggressive care at the end of life if they had completed Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) Forms rather than Advance Directives (ADs). [Read more.](#)

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## National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

**AzHHA awarded \$1 million grant to aid end-of-life care & planning services.** The [Lovell Foundation](#) awarded the [Arizona Hospital and Healthcare Association](#) (AzHHA) a four-year, \$1 million grant to enable AzHHA to pursue transformative work in the area of end-of-life care via the [Thoughtful Life Conversations](#) coalition. [View Press Release](#) (PDF). Congratulations, AzHHA!

**POLST Care Continuum Toolkit update.** Our webinar series introducing *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. If you watch any, 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 soon at our [toolkit web page](#). Questions? Email us at [toolkit@polst.org](mailto:toolkit@polst.org).

**Apply for the 2018 Practice Change Leaders Program! Deadline August 16.** 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](#). [More info about the PCL Program \(PDF\)](#).

**You can register early for C-TAC's 2017 National Summit**, "the premier event for visionaries in advanced illness care who are actively reshaping the way care is provided." It will take place in Washington, DC this November 27-29 and engage with industry leaders on a range of topics including policy, delivery system reform, community engagement, caregiver support, and more. This year's event is co-chaired by former U.S. Senate Majority Leaders Tom Daschle and Bill Frist, MD. [Read more](#).

**End Well Symposium coming to San Francisco, December 7.** A symposium about end-of-life design, examining: (1) How can we change our relationship with death? (2) How can we create a culture and the tools to help us make sense of the dying process — as a patient, family member and clinician? (3) How can we create a more pervasive cultural support system that eases the burden of dying? (4) How can we empower the end of life experience for patient, family and caregiver? (5) How will we provide care — health care and otherwise — that honors personhood and delivers value? [View website](#).

**Oregon POLST Registry 2016 Annual Report Published.** "The Oregon POLST Registry experienced its largest volume of POLST forms in 2016, including more electronically completed POLST forms than any other year. In 2016, the Registry business and operations team focused on advancing the technology behind the Registry, while maintaining all other operational needs, (including answering over 5,500 phone calls and processing the largest form volume to date - just under 57,000 forms)." [View the Annual Report \(PDF\)](#).

