

National POLST Paradigm

Forum Topic of the Month

Have you done this? What do you think?

[Use the POLST Care Continuum Toolkit as a training tool?](#)



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 (it is **not** a patient or caregiver forum). To request access, please email us at info@polst.org, giving us your full name, title/organization and state in which you practice.

Featured News



Improving access to POLST documents report released

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) recently released a report on POLST technologies, including electronic POLST and POLST Registries. It provides an excellent overview of POLST, how POLST documents are accessed, stored, and transferred, and why electronic POLST registries may be of benefit to communities, plus the factors for success in implementing electronic access to POLST documents. The report also describes in depth four states' implementations of POLST registries: Oregon, West Virginia, New York, and California). [View the Report \(PDF, 1.1 MB\)](#).

Featured Resource



Conversation Starter Kits from The Conversation Project.

The Conversation Starter Kit is a tool to help you have the conversation with a family member, friend, or other loved one about your — or their — wishes regarding end-of-life care. It is available in several languages. All of the Starter Kits are available to download and print for free. [View the Starter Kits web page](#).

Featured Research



Surrogate Preferences on the POLST Form

Elizabeth Chen, PhD, Charles Pu, MD, Rachelle Bernacki, MD, Julia Ragland, MD, Jonathon Schwartz, MD, and Jan Mutchler, PhD examined 606 Massachusetts MOLST Forms at 3 hospitals. With treatment preferences categorized as either All or Limited, the study authors compared the selections made by surrogates versus those made by patients. [View online](#) (limited access). For more context, view related webinar by Dr. Chen on [YouTube](#) presented on January 25, 2018. See all [National POLST webinars](#).

National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

POLST News

The National POLST Technology Consensus Project has started its webinar series! All are welcome to register for these short (~30-minute) webinars, intended to give you background information on POLST Technologies. Attendees are encouraged to ask questions to make the presentation more interactive and address individual interests. [Read more about the Tech Consensus Project](#).

Indiana POLST releases video and new POLST form. The Indiana POST (Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment) Program has published a new educational video and a new POST form that allows for physician, APRN and PA signatures as the treating health care provider. [View video on YouTube](#). [Learn more about Indiana POST](#).

Oregon POLST Registry 2017 Annual Report is available via the [Oregon POLST Registry](#) website or the [National POLST Paradigm Resource Library](#). [Download the 2017 Annual Report](#).

Webinars, Conferences:

Review the ePOLST and Advance Care Planning Registry Webinar which also discusses the Medcordance advance care planning platform. To receive a link to the webinar by email: visit <http://health-e-medrecord.com/contact.php>, provide your name and email address, and type WEBINAR in the message section. Presented by Carlos Reyes of Health-e-Medrecord.

Register for the Respecting Choices® National Share the Experience (NSTE) 2018 conference on October 23 through 26, 2018. The purpose of NSTE is to share best practices and lessons learned from evidence-based Respecting Choices programs that combine complementary advance care planning (ACP) and shared decision-making (SDM) programs. [Learn more](#). [View Brochure](#). [Register now](#).

Get trained at California's POLST Train-the-Trainer workshops. The Coalition for Compassionate Care of California has been holding their POLST Train the Trainer workshops on a semi-annual basis for years, drawing participants nationally, as they are well respected by the POLST community at large. The next training is slated for August 15-16. [Read more](#). [Register](#).

Notable Publication:

Physicians' Views on Advance Care Planning and End-of-Life Care Conversations, by Terry Fulmer, PhD; Marcus Escobedo, MPA; Amy Berman, RN; Mary Jane Koren, MD; Sandra Hernández, MD; and Angela Hult, BA was published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. This article described and interpreted a 2016 survey of physicians that revealing that, among other conclusions, 99% of physicians surveyed agreed that it is important for them to have conversations with their patients about advance care planning, yet only 29% reported having formal training in this area. [View online](#) (limited access).

