

National POLST Paradigm

Forum Topic of the Month

Needed: Patient stories!

Help the National POLST build its repository of stories to share online and for all states to use on [our Forum thread](#).



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



First National POLST Plenary Assembly convenes May 13 and 14, 2019.

We are excited to announce our first annual Plenary Assembly meeting May 13-14, 2019. The National POLST Paradigm launched its new governance structure in July 2018; the Plenary Assembly was established to give every state (and DC) POLST program an opportunity to participate in providing direction and creating national policies and guidance. [PA members and alternates](#), please check your email for conference details. [Read more about National POLST governance](#). (If you don't see any

representatives from your state listed, [contact us](#).)

Featured Resource



Keynote from Respecting Choices features National POLST vision by Amy Vandembroucke

In her keynote speech for the Respecting Choices® [National Share the Experience \(NSTE\) 2018 Conference](#), Amy Vandembroucke, JD, Executive Director of the National POLST Paradigm, lends her perspective on how advance care planning can be made both easier for health care professionals and less burdensome for patients. Many thanks to Respecting Choices® for sharing [the video of her speech](#), *Advance Care Planning: Takeaways from Hamilton*, delivered October 24, 2018.

Featured Research



Study finds POLST effective in end-of-life care planning in UCLA Dementia Care Management Program.

"The Effect of a Comprehensive Dementia Care Management Program on End-of-Life Care," published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, was authored by Lee A. Jennings, MD, MSHS, Maurice Turner, BS, Chandra Keebler, MD, Carl H. Burton, MD, Tahmineh Romero, MS, MQM, Neil S. Wenger, MD, MPH, and David B. Reuben, MD. 322 individuals who were part of a Dementia Care Program run by UCLA were studied retrospectively through EHR chart abstraction. POLST completion was correlated with significantly more hospice utilization and dying at home (rather than at a facility), but also more hospitalizations in the last 6 months of life. [Read more](#).

National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

POLST News

Gary Stein welcomed as newest National POLST Advisor. [Gary Stein](#), JD, MSW, of Yeshiva University, recently joined the roster of National POLST Advisors as our advisor for social work. [View Governance web page](#).

About POLST video online updated. Thanks to the [Indiana POST Program](#) for sharing with us this well-produced introduction to POLST. [View online](#).

Advance Care Planning Advocacy and Support

NHDD, or National Healthcare Decisions Day is April 16th each year. No coincidence it is the day after taxes are due, a nod to the saying attributed to Ben Franklin, "nothing is certain but death and taxes." NHDD promotes and celebrates advance care planning. [Learn more](#) and get and share ideas for NHDD with your colleagues [in the forum](#).

Advance Care Planning video. We've posted to YouTube a very brief, upbeat video explaining and encouraging advance care planning. Moreover it covers the basic steps to follow. Check it out on [YouTube](#) where it is the latest addition to the [National POLST channel](#). Many thanks to [Optum Care](#) for producing and sharing with us!

Upcoming Conferences

Register for the Post-Acute Care Conference, April 27 to 28. Help develop and advance a research and policy agenda that invigorates change for Post-Acute Care by engaging diverse stakeholders representing PAC research, policy and industry. [Learn more and register now](#).

Leadership Opportunities

Apply for Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program. The [Cambria Health Foundation](#) has opened the Sojourns® Scholar Leadership Program application cycle for 2019. Individuals from around the country including physicians, nurses, social workers, physician assistants, chaplains, psychologists, pharmacists and other health system leaders are encouraged to apply for this program, which is designed to identify, cultivate and advance the next generation of palliative care leaders. Letter of Intent due February 28, 2019. [Read more](#).

Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program information sessions begin soon. Open to professionals in all disciplines and at all career stages, the [Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program](#) provides skills, content, and hands-on experience to be able to offer policy solutions to the health challenges of an increasingly aging population and the barriers to the health care system that serves them. [See how to apply](#). [View information sessions](#).

