

National POLST Paradigm

Forum Topic of the Month

News about our communications grant! [Read more and let us know](#) your ideas about this work as we move forward.

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.



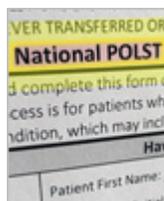
Featured News



Inaugural National POLST Plenary Assembly held, new leaders announced

In May, the National POLST Paradigm Plenary Assembly held its inaugural meeting in Austin, Texas. Representatives from 43 POLST programs convened to review and discuss national standards for POLST programs, POLST forms, and POLST education. New National POLST representatives were also nominated during the meeting. The National POLST Paradigm's new governance structure was reformatted in 2018 order to increase representation and participation from programs across the nation. View the updated roster for [National POLST Leadership](#).

Featured Resource



First National POLST form released!

The National POLST Paradigm is pleased to announce the release of the first national POLST form, and accompanying materials: a form guide for professionals, and two patient guides — one to help prepare patients for the POLST conversation, and one to help patients interpreting the form once it is completed. [View materials online](#).

Featured Research



Letter in support of artificial nutrition options on POLST forms published in JAGS

This *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* article was a result of a robust discussion at the Plenary Assembly and responds to a previously published letter by Susan Tolle and others that argued for the removal of nutrition options from POLST forms. A main argument by Hickman *et al.* was that the original letter suggested that full treatment (including long-term, artificial nutrition) was being selected more often over time: "increased to more than 2500 registrants." Actually, the proportion of those choosing long-term artificial treatment has not increased but *slightly decreased* over time, but since more POLST forms are in use, this explains why the absolute numbers have increased. The other points by Tolle *et al.* were also addressed in this letter. View the [announcement](#) and [article](#) online.

National POLST Paradigm News in Brief

POLST News

Register for the webinar on the national POLST form. On November 5, Amy Vandenbroucke will be presenting this opportunity for POLST Program leaders, their coalition members, national advisors and leadership council members to hear about the process of creating the national form and related materials. Join us to discuss opportunities for future research, and to hear what next steps the National POLST Office is taking related to the form. [Register now](#).

Communication grant awarded to National POLST. Cambia Health Foundation and The John A. Hartford Foundation announced a partnership in co-funding seven national organizations working to improve care for older adults and other people facing serious illness and the end of life. [Read more.](#)

C-TAC also promotes decision to keep Artificial Nutrition on POLST forms per their August 16 weekly email alert and also promotes first national POLST form via their [blog announcement.](#)

Register for C-TAC's National Summit on Advanced Illness Care, October 9-11, in Minneapolis. [Learn more and register.](#)

Reminders to POLST Technology Leaders

The Second POLST Technology Consensus Meeting is October 8 in Minneapolis. While this is a small, invitation-only, working conference, we can still use help and sponsors. Email amy@polst.org with questions. See [website](#) for more information about the project.

Is this newsletter helpful? We want it to be! [Email us to let us know](#) if you have any ideas on what else we could include to make it even more useful and informative to you.

