

# National POLST

## Forum Topic of the Month

**Input on Quality Indicator #3.** The National POLST Research and Quality Assurance Committee is seeking input on their Quality Indicator #3. [Learn more and please submit input by February 28.](#)

*About the Forum:* This is not a patient or caregiver forum. The National POLST Forum is a closed online discussion board for POLST advocates and health care professionals participating in their state POLST Program (active programs only). To request access, email [info@polst.org](mailto:info@polst.org), giving us your full name, title/organization and state in which you practice.



## Sponsorship Opportunity — Support National POLST!

Join us as a sponsor at our **Annual POLST National Governance Meeting**, April 27-28 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

As a sponsor you will get your name, product or service in front of the right audience on our website and at our Annual POLST National Governance Meeting!



[Learn more and download application form](#)

## Featured News



### New York Times piece "CPR, by Default" mentions POLST.

Author Paula Span describes the problems with the standard practice of performing "CPR, by Default," on non-responsive patients. Contrary to popular belief, CPR is overwhelmingly unlikely to be successful, especially in patients at least 80 years old (only 2% survive to be discharged from the hospital). Factors which make CPR most successful are known, but patients and even clinicians often are not fully aware of these factors. Education about both CPR and POLST can prevent unwanted outcomes. [Read the story.](#)

## Featured Resources



### National POLST Form webinar available online

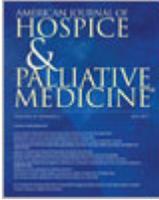
In November, Amy Vandenbroucke introduced the new *national POLST form* by webinar, discussing the process of how decisions were made about what to include and exclude on it, and much more. [Visit our webinars page](#) to watch the recording (11/21/2019, 38 min. including questions). If you have questions, there are many ways to learn more! Check out our many resources about the new form: [web page](#), [guide for professionals](#) (a 38-page PDF), [forum thread](#), or [reach out to Amy](#).



### Devil is in the Details: A case for POLST registries webinar available online

In January, Chelsey Patten, DBE, presented *The Devil is in the Details: A case based argument for advance care planning registries*. Learn why she advocates for the creation of advance care planning registries as she illustrates the limitations of the electronic health record in capturing details related to both advance directives and POLST (1/9/2020, 36 min. including questions). [Visit our webinars page](#) to watch the recording.

## Featured Research



### Reducing discrepancy between Code Status and POLST orders.

Two incidents of unwanted CPR despite "well-written, clear, and easily viewable" POLST orders for no CPR inspired this research study in Maryland, "Reducing Discrepancy Between Code Status Orders and Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Therapies: Results of a Quality Improvement Initiative," by Rachel Lake, Lori Franks, and Barry Meisenberg. [View article](#) (limited access).

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## News Briefs

### National POLST News

#### National POLST presenting at conferences in 2020

(1) [American Health Lawyers Association's Long Term Care & the Law](#) (March 2-4, 2020). Karl Steinberg and Amy Vandembroucke will present "Avoiding the Deadly POLST Sins." on March 4, 9:40-10:40 am. (Thank you, Charlie Sabatino, for such a catchy title—it has been helpful at many conferences! Read Charlie's original *ABA Bifocal* article, "[POLST: Avoid the Seven Deadly Sins](#).")

(2) [AMDAs Annual Conference](#) (April 2-5, 2020). Kevin Henning and Amy Vandembroucke will present "Conversations: The Cornerstone of the POLST Paradigm and all Advance Care Planning" on April 4 at 4-5:30 pm.

**POLST Programs participating with National POLST may be eligible for Logo program** - The National POLST Office invites Active POLST Programs (those participating with National POLST) to apply for permission to use newly developed National POLST logos. Contact [amy@polst.org](mailto:amy@polst.org) for more information. [Learn more about our new logo.](#)

**West Virginia 2019 e-Registry stats published** - The West Virginia Center for End-of-Life Care has published summary statistics about their e-Directive Registry, which accepts and stores WV POST and other advance care planning forms, for year 2019. Questions? Email [Danielle Funk](mailto:Danielle Funk). [View the summary \(PDF\)](#). View our [Resource Library](#).

### Leadership Opportunities

**Apply for Sojourns Scholar Leadership Program** - The [Cambria Health Foundation](#) has opened the Sojourns® Scholar Leadership Program application cycle for 2020. 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 21, 2020. [Read more.](#)

**Information sessions for Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program underway.** 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.](#) *Remaining sessions:* February 27, 2020 from noon to 1 pm; March 11, 2020 from 4 to 5 pm; and April 3, 2020 from noon to 1 pm. RSVP to [hafell@nyspi.columbia.edu](mailto:hafell@nyspi.columbia.edu).

### Continuing Education

**The Center to Advance Palliative Care is offering two free online courses to all clinicians:** *An In-Depth Look At Palliative Care And Its Services* and *Supporting the Caregivers of People Living with Dementia*. [Learn more.](#)

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.

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