

# National POLST

## Forum Topic of the Month

### Witness Signatures on POLST

If you have advice to states about how to remove witnessing requirements on POLST forms, [please share your thoughts](#).

**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.

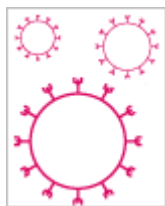
## Featured News



### National POLST releases statement about celebrity video featuring POLST

On September 1, Goals of Care Coalition of New Jersey published a video skit in which superstar actors Danny DeVito and Michael Douglas catch up on Zoom and end up talking about POLST. National POLST issued some comments about this charming video to help clarify for whom POLST is appropriate. [View the statement](#) (PDF). View all National POLST [Press Releases](#).

## Featured Resource



### National POLST Patient Resources

Earlier this year, National POLST published a web page with COVID-19 resources for health care professionals. We've been updating this and also created a shorter list of patient-focused COVID-19 resources, included on our general patient resources page. Do you know of others that might be particularly helpful to add? Let us know! We'd love to consider others to improve this page. See our [patient resources](#) web page.

## Featured Research



### Improving Medical-Legal Advance Care Planning

In this paper from the *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, Sarah Hooper, JD, Charles P. Sabatino, JD, and Rebecca L. Sudore, MD, bring attention to the fact that people often talk to their lawyers—but not their doctors—about advance care planning. The paper describes historical context and recommendations for a path forward in better aligning the coordination of both legal and medical professionals in advance care planning. [View online](#) (limited access).

## News in Brief

### Webinars—This Week and Next Week

**Thursday, September 17—Understanding the African American Experience and its Impact on Serious Illness**, brought to us by the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, will help us explore and better understand health inequities for people of color experiencing a serious illness. We will listen to the "Conversation" African Americans have been having with America through music and evaluate how the health system responds. Presented by Marilyn Ababio, BA, MPA. [Learn more and register](#).

**Thursday, September 24—How to Communicate to Improve Advance Care Planning: Putting Research into Practice**, hosted by the Coalition to Transform Advance Care (C-TAC), in partnership with the Cleveland Clinic, will highlight the findings of three pioneering research studies on communication, advance care planning, and decision-making. [Read more and register.](#)

### Other Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, October 14—California POLST Registry: Project Status, Update, and Future**, hosted by the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, presented by Judy Thomas, JD, and Rim Cothren, PhD. Noon to 1 pm. PT. [Learn more and register.](#)

**Tuesday, October 27 through Friday, October 30—The Coalition to Transform Advance Care (C-TAC) National Summit on Advanced Illness Care** will be held virtually this year. [Learn more and register.](#)

### Other Webinars and Meetings

**Ongoing—Free Virtual Office Hours on Communications Coaching and more** The Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) continues to offer office hours during the COVID-19 pandemic. Free and open to all, many are focused on communications coaching, examining real case scenarios. Others deal with a broad range of topics such as resiliency, pediatric palliative care, telehealth, and moral distress in the time of COVID-19. [Learn more and register.](#)

**Respecting Choices Virtual Advance Care Planning Webinar: Best Practice for Crisis and Beyond** You're invited to watch this webinar recording to learn about what is different when preparing for, having, and following up after a "virtual" ACP conversation. A one-hour discussion among experienced program leaders, hosted by Respecting Choices. [Watch the webinar.](#)

**The C-TAC National National Policy Forum** was held online on June 24. C-TAC is allowing anyone to register to listen to the recorded sessions free of charge. [Read more](#) and [register to get access.](#)

**AMDA offers webinar on POLST, ACP and COVID-19: What LTC Facilities Should Be Doing and How.** For \$99, learn what POLST is, where it fits within the advance care planning spectrum, how to use POLST in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, and identify resources that are available to help. [Learn more.](#)

