

National POLST

Forum Topics of the Month

How does *your* POLST Program stay on top of legislation?

Our November 18 webinar (see *Featured Resource*) resulted in a discussion about state legislation and its challenges to POLST Programs. What is your program doing? [Please share in our discussion](#) on the Forum.

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, giving us your full name, title/organization and state in which you practice.

Featured News



Webinar 12/9: How We Adopted and Are Using the National POLST Form

On Wednesday, December 9, you're invited to hear how three states—Arizona, Maine, and New Hampshire—adopted the National POLST Form, what it took and what lessons they can share. We will allow plenty of time for your questions, so [register now](#) to join the live presentation and discussion. Many other states are considering adopting the form; [view map](#) (PDF).

Featured Resource



Watch the Webinar on POLST Legislative Challenges

On November 18, Arizona POLST leaders Sandy Severson and Vicki Buchda presented a webinar, *Avoiding conflicts between Advance Directives and POLST Forms*. You may now [watch the recording](#) (YouTube). [View all POLST webinars](#). Special thanks to Sandy and Vicki for mentioning the National POLST [Legislative Guide](#) (PDF), which was recently updated.

Featured Research



Rapid Implementation of eMOLST Using Telehealth in the COVID-19 Pandemic

Shahla Baharlou, MD, Katie Orem, MPH, Amy S. Kelley, MD, MSHS, Melissa D. Aldridge, PhD, MBA, and Beth Popp, MD, published an article in *NEJM Catalyst Innovations in Care Delivery* describing how, in three days, they enrolled and trained 154 health care professionals in the use of eMOLST, an electronic POLST system integrated with an electronic health recordkeeping system. This was an innovative response to the COVID-19 pandemic with successful enrollment of many new patients from various settings, using telehealth encounters. [View online](#).

News in Brief

National POLST Reminder to All POLST Program Leaders

Attention, POLST Programs! Annual Review Time! We'll be sending out our annual review email this month. This email asks POLST Programs to confirm the information we have on our website is accurate. Please keep an eye out for the email and review by the end of January.

POLST Webinar recordings

CCCC POLST Registry webinar available. On October 14, the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California hosted a webinar, *POLST Registry: Status, Update, and Future*, presented by Judy Thomas, JD, and Robert Cothren, PhD. [View the recording](#) (registration required), or view the compiled [questions and answers](#) (PDF).

NASEM Workshops on Advance Care Planning. This 2-part workshop, developed by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, was a follow-up to the Institute of Medicine report *Dying in America*. POLST Leaders Pat Bomba, Susan Hickman, Hillary Lum, and others served as moderators and panelists. [Learn more about the first](#) and [second webinars](#). Watch the [first](#) and [second](#) webinars (via YouTube).

Advocacy

Can We Talk? Getting Real About the End of Life. Presented by Katy Butler, author of *The Art of Dying Well* and *Knocking on Heaven's Door*, this program is available online. She discusses "step by step preparations — practical, communal, physical, and spiritual — all designed to help you make the most of your remaining time, be it months, years, or decades." [View the video](#). We also want to thank Katy for her thoughtful explanation of POLST! [View Katy discussing POLST](#) within the webinar.

NHPCO Urges HHS, Congress to Support Community-Based Palliative. Jointly signed by dozens of national and state organizations including National POLST, this letter is an appeal to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to develop and implement a community-based palliative care demonstration through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). [View letter](#) (PDF). [View all letters](#) of support from National POLST.

Conversations on COVID-19: Impacts on Communities of Color. This series of short videos from National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) features pairs of health care leaders as they discuss aspects of health disparities on COVID-19 outcomes. Finding from the NASEM in-depth report on Social Determinants of Health are also referenced and provided online. [View the videos to learn more](#).

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](#).

