

National POLST

Forum Topics of the Month

Rehousing of POLST Programs webinar and discussion

Webinar Recording available to Forum participants! Thank you to Linda Darden (NC), Richard Cohen & Paula Sanders (GA) and Rick Bassett (ID) for sharing information about re-housing POLST programs. You are invited to [watch and discuss 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



National POLST Technology Guide Released!

The product of more than 3 years of collaboration and consensus building, the National POLST Technology Committee has released the [National POLST Technology Guide](#). Available to [download](#) (PDF) at no charge, please consider [donating](#) to National POLST. Many thanks for the support from our [sponsors](#), as well as many participants who contributed their time, effort, and expertise in the last three years. Finally, learn more about POLST Technology by signing up for our Technology webinar series (see below)!

Featured Resources



April 13: POLST Technology Webinar Series: Overview of POLST Technology Project

Understand how POLST differs from advance directives and fits into advance care planning. Plus, learn about the National POLST Technology Guide Project, the current state of technology on a state and federal level and why we should be paying attention to POLST technologies. Presented by Amy Vandenbroucke, Rick Bassett, and Dr. Balu Natarajan (Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care). [Register now!](#) View the [list of webinars](#) (PDF), visit the [Technology Guide web page](#), or view our [webinars page](#).



March 23 (MOVED!): Branding, Web and Social Media Tips for POLST Programs Webinar

This webinar has been moved to March 23. Charissa Yang, Communications Strategist and IT Manager of National POLST, will discuss her favorite tips share a few best practices for managing Websites, Branding and Social Media that are applicable to POLST programs and other non profits. Time for Q&A will be provided. [Register now.](#)

Featured Research



Physician and Nurse Practitioner Practices in Completing POLST Forms

Constantine, Wang, Funk, Speis, and Moss published a study in *Journal of Palliative Medicine* comparing practices of physicians and nurse practitioners based on West Virginia POLST Registry data from July 2018 to June 2019. On average, NPs collectively completed almost twice as many POLST forms as physicians, despite the fact that fewer NPs signed forms. NPs tended to write more orders for DNR with comfort measures. [View online](#) (limited access).

News in Brief

Congratulations!

Dr. Karl Steinberg is president for 2021-2022 of AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine. On March 13, 2021, long time POLST Leader Karl Steinberg began his term as President of AMDA. Congratulations, Dr. Steinberg! [Read about his vision for his term in office.](#)

Hawaii POLST Program's endorsement was reaffirmed on February 22, 2021. (Endorsed programs are reviewed by the Program Standards Committee every 3 years). [Visit the Hawaii POLST website.](#)

Leadership and Funding Opportunities

Funding opportunity from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to provide assistance in the form of grants for the development of innovative clinical quality measures that promote excellence in diagnosis of three categories of disease – acute vascular events, infections and cancer. View [request for proposals](#). If you have ideas and want to partner with National POLST on a proposal, please contact amy@polst.org!

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. Read [Program Overview](#). See [how to apply](#). Remaining [Information Sessions](#): Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

Other Resources

New course launched by AAP about palliative care for pediatric patients. Developed with input from the [Center to Advance Palliative Care \(CAPC\)](#), the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#) and [Courageous Parents Network \(CPN\)](#) has launched a *Talking About Serious Illness* course. Available through [EQIPP on the AAP website](#), this course will help facilitate open and honest conversations with parents or other family members, when a child is living with a serious illness.

NEW! Updated Conversation Starter Guides from The Conversation Project! Designed to help you have ‘the conversation’ with the important people in your life about care through the end of life. (Thanks to the IHI for involving Amy Vandenbroucke in the review of these guides!) [Read more and access downloadable PDFs](#) in English, Spanish and Chinese.

Awareness and Advocacy

Dying in Your Mother’s Arms. From the New York Times, this short documentary follows a palliative care doctor in her mission to find a “good death” for children in the worst situations. [Learn more and view on NYTimes.com.](#)

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.](#)

