

National POLST and Lantana Consulting Group Working on POLST CDA

July 2021 – Thanks to sponsorship by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and HL7, National POLST will be working with Lantana Consulting Group to develop an HL7 standard using Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) for the National POLST Form. Amy Vandenbroucke, Executive Director, National POLST and Larry Garber, MD, a member of National POLST’s Technology Committee and Clinical Informaticist at Reliant Medical Group, will serve as subcontractors on the project.

The POLST CDA will create a standardized electronic format for POLST portable medical order forms that can be integrated into electronic health record (EHR) systems and be updated and shared across care settings and data systems. The current lack of this standardized information exchange is particularly problematic for seriously ill or frail patients for whom transfers of care are frequent and where POLST helps ensure a patient’s goals of care are known. The goal of this project is to close this gap by creating a portable medical order CDA based on the National POLST form, as well as the extensive analysis of data elements and stakeholder engagement through National POLST. This project is expected to be completed in January 2022.

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Additional Resources

National POLST Form: <https://polst.org/national-polst-form-pdf>

National POLST Form Guide for Professionals: <https://polst.org/form-guide-pdf>

National POLST Technology Guide: <https://polst.org/tech-guide>

About POLST

POLST is an approach to advance care planning for patients who are considered to be at risk for a life-threatening clinical event because they have a serious life-limiting medical condition, which may include advanced frailty. The POLST process emphasizes eliciting, documenting and honoring patients’ preferences about the treatments they want to receive during a medical emergency or as they decline in health. POLST forms must be completed by health care professionals and signed by a physician, advanced practiced registered nurse or physician assistant in line within their scope of practice and state law. Learn more at www.polst.org

About National POLST

National POLST is the expert and preeminent leader in advancing POLST and committed to supporting and promoting high-quality standards for POLST. Through National POLST state POLST Programs create policies, guidance and materials supporting consistent implementation of POLST. All POLST Programs are invited to participate in national leadership; 44 states currently participate (see <https://polst.org/map-pdf>). For more information, visit <https://polst.org/leadership>

About Lantana

Lantana Consulting Group is a leader in health data quality and integration, which increases access to health information across the spectrum of care delivery and management.