

National POLST

Forum Topic of the Month

Resources Guidance for POLST Use within Disability Communities

National POLST has a note in the middle of its [Intended Population Guidance](#) regarding POLST Use regarding use in patients with significant disabilities but the Public Policy is committee is interested in doing more and are looking for resources to review. If you have something please share in [this forum thread](#).

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



POLST in the 6 New England States (a case for the National POLST Form) in JAGS

A Letter from Erik Fromme, MD, "POLST in the 6 New England States—Getting on the same page (form) and getting it right" was published by the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. In it, he describes a case in which up to 5 POLST forms might be best for a patient just because they travel between Maine and Massachusetts. He implores Vermont, Rhode Island, and Connecticut to join Maine, New Hampshire, and (eventually) Massachusetts in adopting the National POLST form. [Read the letter](#) in JAGS (open access). Learn more about the [National POLST Form](#), view the [form](#) (PDF) or [form guide for professionals](#) (PDF).

Featured Resource



Webinar: Best Practices in Using POLST

The [National Academy for State Health Policy](#) (NASHP) invited Amy Vandenbroucke (National POLST), Danielle Funk ([West Virginia POLST](#)), Cindy Munn ([Louisiana POLST](#)), WV Delegate [Danielle Walker](#) and [Amy Berman](#) (The John A. Hartford Foundation) to present Best Practices in Using POLST on October 21. Amy Vandenbroucke provided an overview of POLST development and current projects; Danielle Funk and Cindy discussed progress in their respective states. Delegate Walker shared her personal story about why end of life planning is important. [Watch online](#).

Featured Research



New review - POLST and treatment intensity

A systematic review by Vranas *et al.* examined existing research on adults near the end of life to assess the association between POLST orders and outcomes including place of death and receipt of high-intensity treatment. A majority of the 20 observational studies (n = 27,090 patients) identified reported positive associations between POLST orders for treatment limitations and lower rates of in-hospital death as well as lower rates of high-intensity treatment, particularly in the prehospital setting. The evidence demonstrating the influence of POLST on treatment outcomes was determined to be moderately strong, though the authors note the evidence base is limited and suggestive of potential unintended consequences. [View online](#) (limited access).

