

National P LST

March 2025

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SERIOUS ILLNESS MESSAGING:

It isn't always intuitive to know how to talk about serious, progressive illnesses. NPC participates with 12 organizations publishing research and implementing best message practices about these conversations. The quick guides offer specific suggestions for how clinicians can talk to their patients about advance care planning, hospice and palliative care. **Warning: these guides are designed for stealing and can be found here:**

<https://seriousillnessmessaging.org/>

Recently, some new research was published about why specialists and other clinicians may hesitate to make referrals for palliative care. Here's a link to a webinar: How Other Specialists See Palliative Care:

<https://www.crowdcast.io/c/1capzp54uc2f>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STATES TO PARTICIPATE IN POLST RESEARCH:

Jennifer Ballentine, Coalition for Compassionate Care of California CEO, is working on a 2-year grant proposal to **develop better approaches and materials for underrepresented and marginalized patient populations**. She will be submitting a letter of interest to the Retirement Research Foundation in May to gain an opportunity for a full grant proposal. She would like 1-2 other states to participate with California and National POLST in this endeavor. Requests for further information or to indicate participation interest should be emailed to jballentine@coalitionccc.org or kim.callanan@gmail.com.

Susan Hickman, Indiana University Schools of Nursing & Medicine; Center for Aging Research, Regenstrief Institute Professor is collaborating with Rebecca Sudore on development **of implementation guides for caregivers** across the many settings patients facing

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serious, progressive illness are treated. She is asking our state programs to participate and collaborate in this work. She will be emailing about this project and the assistance needed. If you'd like more information about this project, please contact her at hickman@iu.edu.

PLANNING A NATIONAL POLST EDUCATION meeting!!!

We want to again gather around the table for those wonderful conversations and opportunities to share that come from **A NATIONAL MEETING**. We anticipate a hybrid format—so those that can't include travel at this time can join the educational sessions. For those that can, we'll likely pick a hub location, (Chicago, Dallas, etc.) to make travel easy. This will be a 4–6-hour event and we anticipate including continuing education credit. **WE NEED YOU**.....this will be most successful if we have a superb planning committee. Contact kim.callanan@gmail.com if you are able to help.

GENTLE REMINDER:

All members are asked to collaborate as a responsibility of membership. And, by that, we mean help by serving on a committee. We have openings on the Annual Meeting Planning, Education, Technology and Research/Quality Committees. This is important because this is how we get your feedback and collaboration on NPC initiatives and work. Please contact kim.callanan@gmail.com with an indication of which committee you could serve on.

RENEW YOUR STATE MEMBERSHIP:

NPC relies on member fees to fund our ongoing activities and provide services to our member states. **State leaders will receive an invoice via email** -- membership runs from June to June of the following year. The map on our National POLST Collaborative website identifies members and one click leads you to the state contact information. To learn about membership benefits or to enroll as a new member, go to <https://polst.org/members/>.

NPC guidance for ePOLST completion of the NPC model POLST form is available in MyDirectives for Clinicians:

NPC is collaborating with MyDirectives, a provider of digital advance care planning (ACP) tools and secure, cloud-based storage for patients and healthcare access, to offer guidance for their online **POLST** completion/retention product. If your state or organization uses or plans to use the MyDirectives for Clinicians platform, this guidance can significantly help clinicians and NPC will receive payment for this use at no charge to your organization. Contact Kim at kim.callanan@gmail.com if you need further information.

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Featured News:

CTAC recently conducted a roundtable about Insights from the first 100 days of the current US administration projecting what this means for health care going forward. Here is a link to the presentation:

[Recording Link](#)

Upcoming Events:

Please join the National POLST Collaborative for our Annual Meeting:

Who: National POLST Collaborative

What: NPC Annual Meeting

When: Thursday, June 19th at 2 PM ET, 1 PM CT, 11 AM PT

Where: Virtual meeting link will be emailed to members in early June or upon request

Please Support NPC!

The work of the National POLST Collaborative depends on donations to keep going. Please consider donating to NPC.

Thanks to our philanthropy partner, **Ochsner Health**, for providing our donation portal:

[https://one.bidpal.net/polst/browse/donation\(details:item/3\)](https://one.bidpal.net/polst/browse/donation(details:item/3))