

Virginia POLST Collaborative Adopts National POLST Form

April 2023 – The Virginia POLST Collaborative is pleased to announce the adoption of the National POLST form. This form was created by National POLST to facilitate a standard approach to portable medical order sets for people with advanced illness. As more states adopt the National POLST form, it will be easier to:

- know and honor patient treatment preferences throughout the United States;
- conduct research and quality assurance activities, creating shared data for generalizable knowledge; and
- educate about POLST to patients and providers so the process and form are understood and appropriately implemented everywhere.

The National form represents a major step towards national consensus and is the product of almost two years of interviews, consensus building, feedback, compromise, and iterative versions of the document. As more states adopt the National POLST form, the acceptance and understanding of the POLST process and the resultant form will improve goal concordant care throughout the United States.

As of March 2022, the Virginia Department of Health recognizes all commonly used portable medical order sets across the US --such as POST, MOST, POLST, MOLST, as well as other state specific DNR orders -- as acceptable Virginia durable DNR orders.

POLST is a voluntary approach to advanced illness and end-of-life planning that emphasizes eliciting, documenting, and honoring the treatment preferences of seriously ill or frail individuals using a portable medical order set -- the POLST form. If a seriously ill or frail patient wants to use a POLST form, their health care professional will complete it after talking with the patient about their diagnosis, prognosis, treatment options, and goals of care.

Related Links:

[Other-DDNR-Guidance-Doc-03182022-1_508c.pdf \(virginia.gov\)](#)

www.polst.org

www.virginiapolst.org

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