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Contact Us

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POLST Education

POLST Train-the-Trainer Course

POLST: It Starts with a Conversation, CCCC's two-day train-the-trainer course provides opportunities for attendees to develop skills for facilitating meaningful conversations with patients and their families about POLST and goals of care. Space is limited. Sign up early for discounted registration!

Dates: February 24-25, 2010

Location: Sierra Health Foundation, Sacramento

Cost: \$169 for CCCC members; \$199 for non-members

Click [here](#) for a registration form.

Additional courses will be held in the Central Valley, Orange County and the LA area in 2010. Dates and locations will be announced in future issues of the POLST Update and at www.caPOLST.org.

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POLST Curriculum Being Updated and Adapted

With six Train-the-Trainer courses completed in 2009, CCCC is further fine-tuning the standardized POLST curriculum. The training is also being adapted to a one-day format, as well as versions geared toward physicians and pediatric care teams.

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Local POLST Conferences

The Sacramento Area POLST Collaborative is sponsoring a one-day workshop, *POLST: Beginning the Conversation*, on January 26th. The workshop is limited to health professionals from the Sacramento region; course fee is \$85. For more information, contact Kathy Glasmire at (916) 851-2828 or glasmire@chcd.org. To register, click [here](#).

The West LA and San Fernando Valley POLST Coalitions are co-sponsoring a one-day POLST conference, *Changing the Approach to Care in Los Angeles: The Role of POLST*, on January 30th in Los Angeles. Speakers include Susan Tolle, MD, Oregon Health & Science University, and Judy Citko, JD, California Coalition for Compassionate Care. Register by December 31st to receive early registration rate of \$15. For more information, contact Joni Novosel at (818) 947-4040.

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Save the Date! CCCC's Annual Conference – April 19

CCCC's 2nd Annual Conference and Membership Meeting – *Visions: New Directions for Compassionate Care* – will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Sacramento on April 19, 2010. Mark your calendar and watch for more details soon.

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POLST Resources

Revised Consumer Brochure and FAQs

A [revised brochure](#) designed to introduce POLST to consumers is now available in PDF format at www.caPOLST.org. Also available on the website are updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for [consumers](#) and [providers](#).

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New Sources for Printed POLST Forms

POLST forms are now available for purchase from [MED-PASS](#). The forms come pre-printed on Pulsar Pink card stock, and are available in tablets of 100 forms.

The [California Medical Association](#) has developed a POLST Kit for purchase which includes a POLST form, wallet card and Frequently Asked Questions.

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Public Policy

All Facilities Letter for Nursing Homes

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) worked in collaboration with members from the California Association of Health Facilities (CAHF), California Association of Long-Term Care Medicine (CALTCM), and the California Coalition for Compassionate Care (CCCC) to develop an All Facilities Letter (AFL) to provide clarity about POLST and to emphasize the role of the doctor when there is a change in a resident's condition. The [letter](#) has been disseminated to all nursing homes.

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EMSA Guidelines for DNR Directives

December's Update from the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) includes approved "[Guidelines for EMS Personnel Regarding Do Not Resuscitate \(DNR\) Directives](#)."

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Feedback is Requested

California's POLST Form

Suggested revisions to the California POLST form are currently being accepted. The Documentation Committee of the POLST Task Force will consider suggestions and recommend changes to the form in late 2010.

All comments may be submitted by email to [Erin Henke](#) by January 15th.

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POLST Model Policies and Procedures

The POLST Task Force is also seeking feedback on the Model Policies and Procedures for acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and hospices now that many providers have implemented POLST P&Ps.

All comments may be submitted by email to [Erin Henke](#) by January 15th.

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POLST in the Media

[“POLST Helps with Hard Decisions: New Form Makes Planning for End-of-Life Medical Care Easier and More Comfortable”](#)

The Signal, Santa Clarita Valley, November 22, 2009

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[“Making End-of-Life Decisions”](#)

The Herald, Monterey County, November 9, 2009

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[“The New POLST Form: Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment Document Patients’ Treatment Preferences”](#)

Sierra Sacramento Valley Medicine, Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society, September/October 2009 issue

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Commonwealth Club

CCCC Executive Director, Judy Citko, and Alameda POLST Coalition Leader, Sharon Jeans, LCSW participated in a panel discussion, “[A Good Death: Intersection of Policy and Practice](#),” at the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco on October 30.

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Newsletters are available on the CCCC Website (www.finalchoices.org) in PDF format for anyone who is having trouble reading this email version.