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CCCC Annual Meeting & Workgroups

Putting POLST into Action

Starting this year, CCCC will hold one membership meeting a year. The 2009 meeting will be held in conjunction with the [statewide conference on POLST](#) (Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment). Workgroups will meet as part of the conference.

Register today! Space is limited! Dues-paying members receive a discount on the conference fee, which covers continental breakfast, lunch, networking reception, materials, and CEUs.

March 30, 2009 from 8:00am – 5:00pm (followed by reception)

Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento

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Public Policy

CDPH Issues Series of All Facilities Letters

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has issued a series of All Facilities Letters (AFL) on new laws effective January 1, 2009 that impact end-of-life care.

POLST

- [AFL 08-29](#) notifies all licensed health facilities of the requirement to honor POLST.

Hospital Brain Death Policy

- [AFL 08-37](#) notifies hospitals of the requirement to adopt a policy for providing loved ones with a reasonable period of time in the event a patient is declared brain dead.

Right to Know

- [AFL 08-44](#) notifies all licensed health facilities of the requirement that physicians and physician extenders offer patients information about certain care options when the patient is diagnosed with a terminal illness.

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Palliative Care Identified as National Priority

The [National Priorities Partnership \(NPP\)](#) has identified six aspects of healthcare that have the greatest potential for transforming our

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healthcare system. "Access to palliative and hospice care for patients with life-threatening illness" is included as one of those six.

NPP is a collaborative effort of 28 major national organizations that together influence every part of the health care system. NPP is convened by the National Quality Forum.

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National Healthcare Decisions Day - April 16

April 16, 2009, is designated as National Healthcare Decisions Day. Use this day as an opportunity to promote advance care planning in your community.

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Palliative Care Legislation Across the US

Several states, in addition to California, have recently passed [legislation](#) to promote palliative care:

- New York created an advisory panel to study palliative care services, implement best practices, and provide grants worth \$4.5 million to recruit faculty and develop programs focused on palliative care.
- Tennessee enabled residents of assisted-living facilities to receive palliative care and allow hospices to provide palliative care to non-hospice patients.
- Vermont and Illinois created study committees to develop plans for coordinating and improving the delivery of palliative care.

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California Data

Deaths in California Hospitals

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) has issued a [profile](#) of patient deaths occurring in the hospital in 2006. Approximately one third of all deaths in California occurred in a hospital.

About one out of six patients with a Do Not Resuscitate Order die during their hospital stay. Three out of six admitted for palliative care die in-hospital.

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People on the Move

Sandy Chen-Stokes, RN, MSN, Executive Director

[Chinese American Coalition for Compassionate Care \(CACCC\)](#) has been selected by the American Cancer Society for a 2009 Lane Adams Quality of Life Award, a national multidisciplinary award for excellence in caring.

Read the [in-depth interview](#) with Sandy Stokes, founder and

director of the CACCC in the Hospice Foundation of America's January newsletter.

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Educational Opportunities

Respecting Choices

This [two-day course](#) prepares participants to facilitate advance care planning conversations. Pre-course work required.

Sponsors: Mercy & Compassionate Care Alliance of the Greater Sacramento Region

Dates: March 12–13 & October 1–2

Location: Mercy San Juan Medical Center, Carmichael, CA

Registration: \$150

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Hospice in Assisted Living

This [half-day workshop](#) provides tools and resources for hospices and assisted living providers to work collaboratively to meet the needs of residents.

Sponsors: California Hospice and Palliative Care Association & California Assisted Living Association

Dates & locations:

February 24 – San Diego, CA

February 25 – Irvine, CA

March 3 – Sacramento, CA

March 4 – San Jose, CA

Registration: \$89 member, \$109 non-member

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ELNEC - Geriatric

This [course](#) is designed for those who serve in skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, homecare, clinics, acute care, and hospice

Sponsors: American Association of Colleges of Nursing & City of Hope

Dates: May 15 - 16

Location: Pasadena, CA

An Archstone Foundation grant will provide free ELNEC registration for the first 100 eligible California nurses.

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When Religion and Science Collide

Kathleen Boozang, JD, LLM, Associate Dean and Professor of Law, Seton Hall Law School, will speak on *When Religion and Science Collide: Negotiating Conflicts between Physicians and*

Patients/Families.

Sponsor: UC Davis Health System

Date: March 12, 5:30pm (reception), 6:30pm (lecture)

Location: UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, CA

For more information: julie.bechtel@ucdmc.ucdavis.edu or (916) 734-6135.

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Hospital-Based Palliative Care

Several educational opportunities exist for hospital-based palliative care programs:

- [University of California at San Francisco](#) provides customized hands-on operational training and yearlong mentoring for programs at every stage of development and growth. Upcoming dates: March 16-17 & May 4-5.
- Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) is holding an [audio conference](#) on palliative care in the outpatient clinic. Michael Rabow, MD is the featured speaker. March 19 from 10:30-11:30am. \$89 per phone line or \$99 for one phone line plus the audio conference CD-ROM.
- CAPC offers [online courses](#) covering the operational and financial essentials of palliative care program growth and sustainability. Courses are available 24 hours a day. CME & CEU credits are provided. \$99 per course, per student.

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