Check List for Starting a POLST Pilot Program at Your Hospital

- Identify a Physician Champion
- Draft a letter to CEO/CMO asking for support
- Educate the Ethics Committee
- Get POLST on Medical Executive Committee’s agenda
- Begin educational blitz
  - “Those who order” - Physicians
    - Start with Grand Rounds – Bring in experts
    - Intensive care units
    - Hospitalists
    - Primary care providers
    - Select specialties
  - “Those who implement the order” – All healthcare providers
    - Nursing Leadership
    - Emergency Department
    - Hospice units
    - Emergency Medical Personnel
    - ALF/SNF
  - “Those who are affected by the order” - Patients
    - Hospital Website
    - Local newspaper
    - Patient advocacy groups
    - At the bedside when completing the form
- Edit DNR policies and/or create new POLST policy
- Have POLST form approved by hospital’s Forms Committee
- Distribute forms to one unit to work out the “kinks”
- Distribute hospital wide
- Collect data
  - Pre/post intervention studies
    - % of patients who die with an advance directive
    - Adherence to wishes
    - Patient satisfaction
    - Practitioner satisfaction
- Distribute to neighboring hospitals