

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