

Program Description for: **MONTANA**

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**Date Completed:** 12/18/2008

**Date Updated:**

**Program Name:** POLST

**State or Region:** Montana  
**Area of Use:** Statewide

- Program Status:**
- No Program (possibly state contacts)
  - Developing Program
  - Endorsed by National POLST Paradigm Initiative Task Force

**Name of program / form:**

Yes	No	Optional	POSSIBLE POLST PARADIGM COMPONENTS
X			1. Form has a uniform, standardized color
X			2. Decisions reflected in the form are medical orders that must be followed by emergency personnel in the field and emergency rooms.
X			3. The form accompanies the patient across care settings
X			4. CPR / DNR section
X			5. Levels of interventions for #3
X			6. Levels of interventions for #4
X			7. Feeding Tube
X			8. Antibiotics
X			9. Basis for orders
X			10. Person completing form
X			11. Physician / NP / PA signature
X			12. Physician / NP / PA name & office number
X			13. Patient / Legal agent signature
X			14. Designation of legal agent name and number
X			15. Space for review
X			16. Statement about leeway ( <i>is the patient's surrogate provided authority to interpret the goals and preference at the time decisions are made?</i> )

**EXTENT OF USE:**

**Start year:** 2009  
**Settings of skills:** Hospital, Nursing Home, Assisted Living, Home.  
**Range of use:** Nursing homes 100%; others – unknown.

**Use by those under 18yrs:** Not determined.

**Distributed per month:** Unknown

**Distributed per year:** Unknown

**HISTORY:** It was presented to the Montana Board of Medical Examiners (BOME) two years ago; sub-committee was formed with input from EMS BOME and Attorney General's Office.

**BARRIERS OVERCOME:** DPPHS wanting to maintain control; deciding whether it needed to be legislatively implemented; educating the community; confusion over POLST vs. Advance Directives.

**STATE LAW AND REGULATIONS:** Montana Rights of the Terminally Ill Act – Section 50-9-103, M.C.A.

**POLST IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING:**

**Policies (hospitals, nursing homes, EMS, etc.):** It promotes patient's autonomy and dignity at the end of life.

**Registry for POLST Paradigm Forms:** Yes, Montana has an End-of-Life registry for Advance Directives which POLST will be a part of. [www.endoflife.mt.gov](http://www.endoflife.mt.gov)

**Management:** Joan Eliel

**Training for health care professionals:** In development.

**Training for the public and patients:** In development.

**CQI projects and research:** Not applicable. Will be developing QI with help from BOME.