

Program Description for: *North Dakota*

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Date Completed: December 30, 2008 **Date Updated:**

Program Name: POLST

State or Region: North Dakota

Area of Use: Currently Northeast region of ND and part of Northwest region of MN

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

Name of program / form:

Yes	No	Optiona I	POSSIBLE POLST PARADIGM COMPONENTS
X			1. Form has a uniform, standardized color
	pending		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: September 2007
Settings of skills: Hospital, nursing homes group homes, dialysis units.
Range of use: Northeast corner of the state and some areas of Northwest MN

Use by those under 18yrs: yes

Distributed per month: Unknown

Distributed per year: unknown

HISTORY: Palliative care was anew program and became familiar with POLST, brought it forward to Medical Staff.

BARRIERS OVERCOME: Our previous code level process had been in place for many years. We had to get physicians on board.

STATE LAW AND REGULATIONS: Currently it is only used in the Grand Forks area/Northeast region of the state. We are in the process of trying to spread it statewide.

POLST IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING:

Policies (hospitals, nursing homes, EMS, etc.): We updated our medical staff rule and procedure policy regarding code level documentation to include POLST.

Registry for POLST Paradigm Forms: Only internal to our organization

Management: We have a committee that oversees our process but the Palliative Care Department is really the champion

Training for health care professionals: In services to staff within our organization and local nursing homes and hospitals that our patients are referred to.

Training for the public and patients: Currently only internal to our organization, but we offer CE to bring referral agencies up to date.

CQI projects and research: None to date