

Program Description for: **TENNESSEE**

Name: Judy Eads

Mail Address: 711 Shenandoah Drive
Brentwood TN 37027

Title: President of TELP

Phone: 615-371-1734

Fax: 615-246-2773

E-mail: jeads@comcast.net

Date Completed: February 6, 2009

Date Updated:

Program Name: Tennessee End of Life Partnership

State or Region: Tennessee

Area of Use: 95 Counties

- 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: 2005

Settings of skills: All Licensed Health Care Facilities and EMS

Range of use: 100% of all licensed facilities and all EMS licensed Services

Use by those under 18yrs: Yes

Distributed per month: Downloadable from Department of Health's web site
Distributed per year: Unable to track

HISTORY: TELP invited Dr. Alvin Moss from Virginia to speak in 2002 to our membership on the topic of how to get started with a POST program. We began immediately working on development of wording for a bill. This was introduced in 2004 and passed. Rules and Regulations were passed in 2005. Drs. Dunn and Schmidt have visited with us also.

BARRIERS OVERCOME: Agreement of the language for the bill, support of the hospitals, and compromising with the Tennessee Medical Association on who could sign the POST form. Only physicians can sign at this time.

STATE LAW AND REGULATIONS: TCA 4-5-202 & 204, 68-11-204-209-211-1805. All licensed health care facilities – 1200-8-1 Hospital, 1200-8-6 Nursing Homes, 1200-8-10 Ambulatory Surgery Centers, 1200-8-25 Assisted Care Living

**POLST IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING:
Policies (hospitals, nursing homes, EMS, etc.):**

The POST form is required to be within the licensed facilities and on transporting patients between facilities. EMS is very supportive of the law.

Registry for POLST Paradigm Forms:

There is no registry for the POST form. All the forms are downloadable from the Department of Health's Web site.

Management:

The Department of Health, Licensing Division enforces the regulations and laws in all licensed facilities to ensure use of forms and patients choices are honored. TELP has been educating on the use of the forms and the law.

Training for health care professionals:

TELP conducts annual training programs and individual training sessions for different facility types and groups.

Training for the public and patients:

TELP has developed a video and assisted the Department of Health in the development of the information on their web site.

CQI projects and research:

We have not done any CQI projects or research projects at this time since we do not have any extra money for paid positions. We would like to do this within the next 2 years if grants become available.