POLST Statue
SB 109
April 2015
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Foundations of SB109

- Ga. CPR Statue
- Ga. AD Statue
- Ga. POLST Statue
    - Authorized DPH to create the POLST
    - 2012 DPH published the POLST Form

SB109

- Definitions
  - “Authorized Person” may consent, Code Section 31-39-2
- POLST Form
  - Reaffirms the creation by DPH
- Effective when
  - Patient has a serious illness or condition, (365 days)
  - At any time when a person has Dementia or a progressive, degenerative disease affect the brain and memory

SB109

- A legally sufficient order in
  - All Settings
  - Valid consent
  - Unless revoked
  - From another state
    - If substantially similar & with the same signatures
- A copy
SB109

- Portable Across Care Settings
- Review of form recommended as care transitions
- Immunity For All, including guardian actions
- Protections for treating pain
- Except if violates Code Section 16-5-5
  - Assisted Suicide

SB109

- Equates Terms DNR=AND etc.
- All conflicting laws or parts are repealed
- Most recent document is the valid one???
  - Not addressed but implied

Georgia POLST Form

Five Sections
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Medical Interventions
- Antibiotics
- Artificially Administered Nutrition
- Signatures
Signatures

- Two Required
  - Patient & Physician OR
  - Authorized Person / Healthcare Advocate & Physician OR
  - Two physicians
- Remember
  - Physician must be on the staff of the institution honoring the POLST

End-of-Life Documents Are Activated

When, in the judgment/agreement of two physicians, one of “three conditions” are met:

- Patient is in the last year of their life / a Terminal Condition
- Patient is in a permanent state of unconsciousness
- Medical judgment that CPR would be inappropriate

Thank You