

Oregon Academy of Family Physicians Endorsement

OAFP Endorses Removal of Artificially Administered Nutrition from the Oregon POLST form

“The Oregon Academy of Family Physicians endorses the elimination of the Section on ‘Artificially Administered Nutrition’ from the newest Oregon Portable Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form. The POLST is designed to inform medical providers of wishes regarding emergency care. First responders, emergency department and hospital physicians and staff need relevant and readily accessible information that is easily visible on the POLST form; information on nutrition is not immediately relevant in most emergent situations. Family physicians work with their patients to discuss comprehensive plans for end of life, and decisions regarding artificial means of nutrition are part of that process. Documentation of this decision does not belong on a form intended to guide emergent level care.”

Approved by the OAFP Board of Directors: January 11, 2020