

The TALK

“I’d like to talk with you today about what is going on with you and your health which will help me understand how to best care for you or your family member. **We will need to discuss the types of treatments available, what will work, what might work, and what will not work and what your goals of care are.** Through this conversation or conversations, we will be able to complete a LaPOST document which is a physician’s order that outlines the plan of care we discussed. This order will communicate this important information to other members of the health care team so they know how to best care for you during your illness. This document will transfer with you across care settings (hospital to home to nursing home, hospice). The LaPOST document can be changed or adjusted at any time as long as it represents your wishes and goals of care.”



LaPOST
la-post.org

Louisiana Physician Orders for Scope of Treatment (LaPOST)

QUICK FACTS

The LaPOST document:

- is a physician's order that outlines a patient's wishes for medical treatment and goals of care when the patient has a known serious, advanced illness and is not expected to live more than six months.
- can be completed for a qualified patient, regardless of age.
- must be signed by a physician and the patient or the patient's personal health care representative in order to be valid.
- is brightly colored (gold) in order to be easily identifiable for patients, caregivers and health care providers.
- can be revoked or changed at any time by the patient or the patient's health care representative if there is new knowledge of a change in the patient's condition or medical wishes.

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