Q: I heard that IDPH is again updating the Practitioner Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form and instructions. Is that true? Will the new POLST form replace all of the old POLST/DNR forms? Will the new POLST form make all previous POLST/DNR forms invalid?

A: We contacted IDPH and were told that there is a new POLST form and instructions coming out very soon. The most recent changes were due to legislation that passed during the last state legislative session. IDPH is finishing up making the final changes and will post the new POLST form on their website in the very near future. Once IHCA is made aware that the new POLST form is available, we will publicize this to our members. IDPH also stated that the old DNR/POLST forms are still valid and must be honored. Unless the person voids an old form, it is still in effect. The new POLST form does not invalidate any old forms. Once the new POLST form is available, providers may want to discuss and educate all their residents and resident representatives/family/guardians to the new POLST form.