

Physician Disclosure & Agreement (P1)



The purpose of this form is to explain how you, as a PAVE volunteer, can help veterans without exposing yourself to liability for medical malpractice. Although PAVE's volunteers are retired physicians, they do not engage in the practice of medicine when working with a veteran client who has asked PAVE for help. PAVE volunteers do not diagnose or treat the veterans' ailments. Rather, they function as coaches or mentors who:

[1] Explain the options available to the veteran and why it is important to seek or engage in treatment for his or her problems.

[2] Advise the veteran in making decisions about the options presented and how to navigate the bureaucracies of the Veterans Affairs and other healthcare agencies.

[3] Encourage the veteran to participate in whatever course of treatment has been agreed upon with the care provider.

[4] Empower the veteran to make their own informed medical decisions

To avoid creating a physician-patient relationship, a PAVE volunteer must scrupulously avoid diagnosing and treating any diseases, injuries, deformities, and other physical and mental conditions. This includes refraining from providing "second opinions," prescribing drugs or medical devices and performing surgery or any procedure upon another person that punctures the skin or invades the body.

I agree that any services I offer to veterans as a volunteer PAVE physician are informational only and do not involve the practice of medicine. I understand that there is no doctor-patient relationship formed either implicitly or explicitly. I understand and agree to all the terms and conditions stated above.

Please print and sign your name and date, and return to [Sarah Christ](#),
PAVE, Box 180727, Coronado, CA 92178