

**DRAFT RESOLUTION 19-6**

**SUBJECT:** Putting Veterans First – Informed Consent

**SOURCE:** HQ

**WHEREAS**, AMVETS believes that veterans need to be better informed by VA doctors about the side effects and available alternative therapies prior to prescribing any high-risk medications; and

**WHEREAS**, AMVETS believes that an informed patient is much more likely to fully comply with their doctor’s instructions and much less likely to complain or be dissatisfied with their treatment and that having the veteran’s ‘buy-in’ and clear understanding of any proposed risky medications, will not only provide much needed ‘peace of mind’ for the veteran and their family, but will be instrumental in the veteran’s overall healing process; and

**WHEREAS**, the VHA Handbook already mandates that side effects and alternative treatments be explained to a veteran prior to deciding on a treatment plan for certain procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, this type of information is especially critical for veterans who may have additional physical and/or mental health concerns and may already be taking, or require, a number of dangerous medications; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that AMVETS works to ensure that veterans receive adequate information regarding the risks and alternative treatments of any medications prescribed by VA physicians.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

VAVS & VA Hospital and Medical Services, Rehabilitation

Benefits.....ADOPT  AMEND  REJECT  NONE

Floor Action.....ADOPTED  ADOPTED (as amended)  REJECTED  TABLED