

REVIEW OF PRACTICE CONSULTATIONS 2015-16

CARNA's Policy and Practice Consultants review their consultations annually to identify emerging trends and issues for nursing and health care. All reviews are in aggregate form to ensure confidentiality and no identifying information is reported.



CONSULTATIONS BY CATEGORY

Category	2014-15	2015-16
Legal/ethical	388 (23.5%)	460 (26%)
Scope of practice	450 (27%)	420 (24%)
General information	305 (19%)	367 (22%)
Legislation/Regulations/Standards	342 (21%)	361 (20%)
Safety	100 (6%)	114 (6%)
Relationships	56 (3.5%)	38 (2%)
Health-care reform	4 (0%)	8 (0%)
Total	1,645	1,768

Top three categories

1. Legal/ethical

Many of the legal and ethical questions were related to the liability of an RN or an NP pertaining to the members' scope of practice, the need for extra liability protection, medication administration and safe practice, medical assistance in dying, documentation practices and risk management.

2. Scope of practice and legislation

The vast majority of calls in scope of practice category were related to whether certain interventions were within the RN or NP scope of practice. Questions included what education would be required to acquire the requisite skills, knowledge and competence to implement specific activities and point of care procedures. Questions about aesthetic nursing continue to be a significant number of calls as this area of practice continues to evolve.

3. Regulation and standards

The most frequent theme in legislation, regulation and standards category was related to medication management. Callers sought clarity on implementation of protocols, immunization, use of client's own medication, over the counter medications, and communication of medication orders.