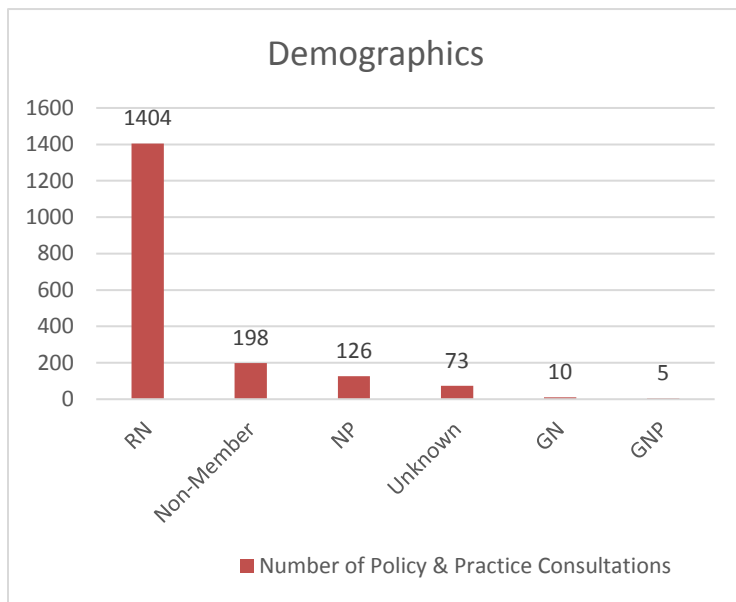
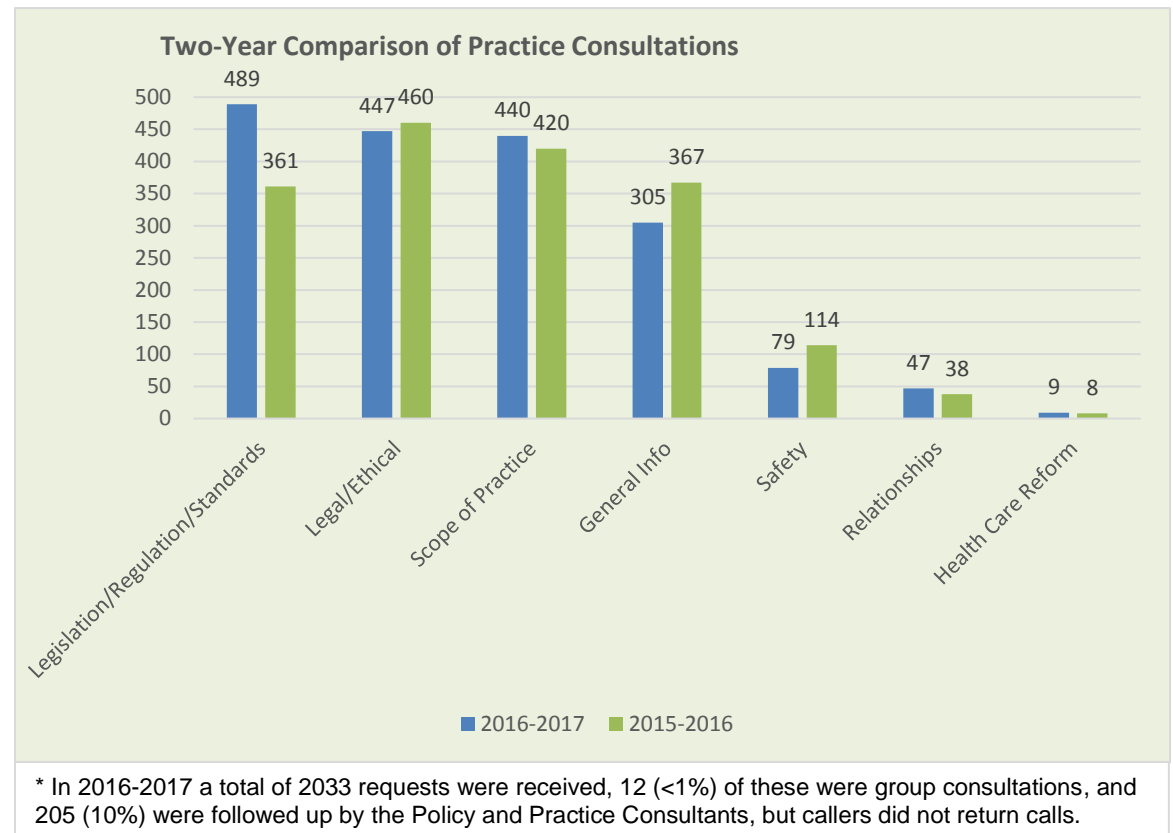


Annual review of questions you asked the policy and practice consultants

CARNA policy and practice consultants provide confidential consultation to individuals and groups regarding issues that effect the delivery of safe, competent and ethical nursing care. Regulated members of CARNA are the primary users of practice consultation followed by members of the public, employers, administrators, other health-care professionals, government and others.



CARNA recognizes that changes in the health-care system are influenced by rapid changes in technology and economic, political, and socio-demographic factors. The annual review of practice consultations helps CARNA identify issues that affect nursing practice within this changing environment and provides an opportunity for strategy discussion to address the current challenges.

In 2016-2017, the predominant theme in the questions that were asked were related to medication management such as:

- an order
- is a client specific order needed prior to the implementation of a protocol that included treatments as well as medications
- pre-printed and verbal orders
- communication of prescriptions, including faxing
- administration of a medication prepared by someone else
- the appropriate use for range dose for drugs
- independent double checks
- changing the route of administration, for example, the medication order was for IM injection and could the RN change to PO
- off label use of a medication
- pass medications
- can RNs dispense samples
- can the dispensing label on a medication be used as identification of an order

The CARNA document [Medication Guidelines \(2015\)](#) identifies principles, gives instructions, information or direction, clarifies roles and responsibilities, and provides a framework for decision-making. This document was used to provide guidance and direction in response to these medication management questions.

