



June 6, 2016

Dear Member,

As you know, the Supreme Court of Canada gave the Federal Government the deadline of June 6, 2016 to have legislation in place for Medical Assistance in Dying. This has not occurred as Bill C-14 is currently before the Senate. Patients may however request medically assisted dying from a physician under the *Carter* decision of the Supreme Court and the applicable policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

Without Bill C-14 in place, Registered Nurses (RNs) and Registered Nurse (Nurse Practitioners) RN(NP)s do not have a specific criminal code exemption for discussing or assisting in the delivery of medical assistance in dying.

Current SRNA Member Guidance and Expectations:

- Members do not assist or counsel patients in medical assistance in dying. The process in place at this time is that patients should discuss this matter with their physician.
- If the involvement of an RN or RN(NP) is requested, members are advised to call the SRNA as soon as possible for practice support (1-800-667-9945 ext. 200 or email [practiceadvice@srna.org](mailto:practiceadvice@srna.org)).
- Members may refer to the [Canadian Nurses Protective Society](#) for professional liability support (1-800-267-3390).

See SRNA Updates from April [4<sup>th</sup>](#) and [20<sup>th</sup>](#) for further detail.

In appreciation,

Carolyn Hoffman, RN,

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