

## Clinical Practice

### **I manage registered nurses but am not a RN myself? What considerations should I make when addressing clinical practice questions which I do not have the expertise to answer?**

- There are several questions that can assist you in obtaining information to inform your decision:
  - What is the anticipated safe outcome?
  - What is the indication for the medication, treatment or procedure?
  - Is there policy and procedure that supports the practice?
  - What is the current best evidence?
  - How do the SRNA standards and competencies and code of ethics apply to the situation?
  - Are there other SRNA guidelines to refer to? For example,
    - Documentation Guideline
    - GN Practice Guideline
    - Medication Management
    - Three Factor Framework
  - Do the nurses have the resources available to them to ensure the practice is carried out safely? Example: Are there sufficient supplies? Are there sufficient staff to manage all the patients on the unit? Is there a physician or RN(NP) available to be consulted with and who can provide additional orders if needed?
  - What is the best decision in the interest of the patient?

## Q&A

- **RN clinical practice requires oversight from an RN. What is the process I should follow if I am struggling to come to a decision about clinical practice issues?**

Seek out the expert advice of RNs in one or more of these roles to assist you in resolving the issue:

- Experienced RNs from your unit;
  - A RN manager from another unit;
  - Clinical Nurse Educator;
  - More senior RN leader;
  - SRNA Practice Advisor
- **Is there an SRNA resource for RN clinical practice that I can use on my unit/in my facility?**  
**Yes.** The SRNA has developed RN Specialty Practices (RNSP) in response to the dissolution of Special Nursing Procedures and Transfer of Medical Function. RNSPs allow for more autonomous practice, within the legislated scope and individual RN competence.

*RN is used to represent all SRNA members including RN(NP)s and RN(AAP)s.*

**SRNA Resources**

[Code of Ethics for registered nurses, 2008](#)

[Standards and Competencies for the Practice of Registered Nurses, 2013](#)

[Standards and Competencies for RN Specialty Practices, 2016](#)

[RN Specialty Practices: RN Guidelines, 2016](#)

[RN Specialty Practices: Employer Guidelines, 2016](#)

[RN Specialty Practices Learning Module](#)