

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia is pleased to provide information on its Practice Consultation services.

What is Practice Consultation?

The intent of this service is to assist registrants, their colleagues, and employers to consider how best to manage practice decisions. This is achieved by using critical thinking and clinical judgment in a way that promotes high practice standards among registrants, consistent with the College's public protection mandate.

The service is intended to supplement employer supports and peer consultation, which should be standard components of Licensed Practical Nurses' practice.

How Can I Access Practice Consultation Services?

Practice consultation with a CLPNBC Nursing Practice Consultant (NPC) may be requested via telephone or email. The College's NPCs are experienced senior LPNs who hold FULL registration with the CLPNBC. They are dedicated to responding to practice issues and inquiries, and/or ethical dilemmas and concerns. You may contact an NPC by detailing your request in an email to practice@clpnbc.org or by phoning the College at 778-373-3101 or toll-free (in B.C.) at 877-373-2201, and asking for either the Practice Department or a Nursing Practice Consultant.

What Can I Expect When I Call?

When a registrant faces a new or unfamiliar ethical dilemma, or a practice situation with unfamiliar characteristics or demands, it may be beneficial to discuss the matter with someone familiar with governing legislation and professional regulation, the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics for LPNs, and general LPN practice issues. The College's practice consultation services are designed to provide this opportunity and are separate from any matter currently under investigation or subject to discipline by the CLPNBC.

Parameters of the CLPNBC's Practice Consultation Services

- ❖ Practice Consultation is available to both registrants of the College of LPNs of BC and interested stakeholders such as colleagues, employers, and members of the general public.
- ❖ Users will be referred to existing documentation for guidance (e.g. the *Health Professions Act*, the Nurses (Licensed Practical) Regulation; and CLPNBC Bylaws, Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics, and other CLPNBC practice-support documents, tools, and resources.
- ❖ Information will be provided through a discussion of options and possible outcomes, with the inquiring party making the final decision on the course of action.

Parameters continued...

- ❖ Practice consultation is intended to assist registrants and stakeholders to identify and clarify the issues being considered; to identify options and implement strategies to resolve problems and improve practice; thereby promoting high practice standards among registrants.
- ❖ Queries to the NPCs are confidential, within the limits of the Code of Ethics and relevant legislation. However, the College is required to take action on issues involving incompetent, impaired, or unethical practice, with respect to an identifiable registrant.
- ❖ Further discussion and information regarding practice consultation related to the College's **Quality Assurance (Quality Practice)** and **Inquiry and Discipline** processes is also available by speaking with the NPCs.
- ❖ The College's NPCs do not provide legal advice, nor do they advocate on behalf of LPNs with employers or their union.
- ❖ Registrants and stakeholders are encouraged to review and utilize information and other resources provided on the College's website at: www.clpnbc.org.

CLPNBC Practice Consultation FAQs

1. Who can use this service?

Practice consultation is available to CLPNBC registrants, their colleagues, employers, and any interested member of the general public.

2. Do I have to give my name?

The service is confidential within the limits of the Code of Ethics and relevant legislation. However, it is necessary to determine the caller's status as a registrant of the College to most appropriately direct the caller to the resources available in their area.

3. How quickly will I get a response?

Every effort will be made to respond to inquiries in a timely fashion, usually within 3 to 5 business days.

4. Who provides practice consultation?

Practice consultation is provided by experienced senior LPNs on staff at the College who hold FULL registration with the CLPNBC. They have a broad range of experience in multiple nursing domains such as clinical practice, administration, and education.

5. What are the CLPNBC's Quality Assurance (Quality Practice) and Inquiry and Discipline processes?

Please contact an NPC directly for more information.



College of Licensed Practical
Nurses of British Columbia

*Ensuring safe,
competent, and ethical nursing
practice.*

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia is recognized provincially, nationally, and internationally as a leader in professional nursing regulation and is committed to protection of the public through the safe, competent, and ethical practice of its registrants.

Regulating the profession of Licensed Practical Nursing in the public interest, in accordance with the *Health Professions Act*.

Further information about Practice Consultation is available on the College website at: www.clpnbc.org

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CLPNBC PRACTICE CONSULTATION



**An information brochure for
CLPNBC registrants, their
colleagues, employers, and the
general public, about the College
of Licensed Practical Nurses of
British Columbia's Practice
Consultation Services.**