

These case studies provide practical examples of how the CRNA's RN Consultants can assist registrants, employers and the public navigate various challenges in their practice.

Learn more about practice guidance, and submit your questions at [CRNA.com](https://www.crna.com)

Example One

How do I meet the currency of practice requirement when I have not had a permit, and I haven't practiced in several years?

A former registrant of the CRNA contacts the customer service team to ask some questions about returning to practice as a registered nurse (RN). During the conversation, the Customer Service Expert learns that the former registrant may not meet the currency of practice requirement. The customer service expert encourages the former registrant to complete their application and that once complete, they will be contacted by an RN Consultant.

The CRNA's RN Consultant receives a message with some details from the Customer Service Expert as well as the contact information for the former registrant. The RN Consultant reviews the details of the completed application and then reaches out to the former registrant to ask some additional questions as well as provide links to information on the website about meeting registration requirements. After reading the website content in detail and exchanging a few more emails with the RN Consultant, it is determined that the former registrant does meet the currency of practice requirement and the application for a permit can be approved.

Example Two

How do I complete continuing competence?

A graduate nurse (GN) registrant completes the online practice guidance request form stating that they have recently graduated, have started practicing nursing and are booked to write their registration exam in two months. The GN knows that permit renewal is coming up and they are not familiar with the continuing competence requirement.

The CRNA's RN Consultant emails the GN the *Continuing Competence Framework* which includes a worksheet guide. The email also includes information about standards of practice and maintaining competence. Although a booking link to meet with the RN Consultant is part of the email, the GN reviews the information and is confident they can proceed without further conversation. The GN emails the RN Consultant back, stating they have everything they need.

Example Three

Is this within my scope of practice?

An RN in Alberta completes the online practice guidance request form seeking some guidance on a situation in their employment setting. The RN is being asked by their employer to perform a particular nursing intervention that they are not familiar with. The RN is not sure if the intervention is within their scope of practice.

The CRNA's RN Consultant receives the details of the online submission and crafts an email reply to the registrant within three to five business days. In the email, the RN Consultant provides links to information on the CRNA's website including the scope of practice for registered nurses, standards of practice and the restricted activities information. Included in the email is a booking link for the registrant to book an online meeting with the RN Consultant for further conversation. Since the registrant is still unsure, they use the link to book a meeting at a time that works with their schedule.

The RN Consultant and the registrant meet via Teams meeting and discuss the registrant's unique concerns. The registrant reveals that they are new to the specific practice area and want to be sure they are practising safely. The RN Consultant guides the registrant about their scope of practice and practice standards. During the conversation, the registrant shares that they believe they require more support and training from the employer and formulates a plan to advocate for themselves. The registrant concludes that the intervention is within their scope of practice, but that as a novice nurse in the practice setting, they require additional support. The meeting ends with the registrant equipped with the tools they need to ensure safe practice for the public.

Example Four

Are these medication practices safe?

An Alberta employer reaches out to the customer service team, seeking to speak with someone regarding nursing medication practices. The Customer Service Expert requests that the individual complete the online form requesting guidance and provides the link.

The CRNA's RN Consultant receives and reviews the request. The employer is seeking clarity and guidance on medication protocols in their practice setting. The individual reaching out is part of the professional practice team who develops policy related to nursing practice. Prior to the email, the individual reviewed the medication management standards documents but has questions specific to their practice setting and changing policy.

The RN Consultant emails the individual back including additional information specific to medication protocols, patient safety and addressing unsafe practice situations. The consultant clarifies that practice guidance is limited to exploring the intent of standards, but that given the complexity and diversity of nursing practice, they cannot offer a specific answer on how the employer should proceed. The individual seeking guidance emails back that they are satisfied with the information provided and has no further questions.