



# Standard Area 2.0

## Professional Responsibility and Accountability

### 2.3 Consent

#### Standard

A **registrant** of RCASLPNB obtains proper consent prior to providing **professional services** and complies with all provincial legislation governing consent and capacity.

#### Indicators

To demonstrate this standard, the registrant will:

- a) Comply with all relevant provincial legislation regarding consent and capacity to provide consent.
- b) Assess patients' or clients' understanding of proposed services and use appropriate communication strategies to support informed decision-making.
- c) Clearly inform the **patient or client** of the risks, benefits and available alternatives related to proposed service plans, including any changes to those services.
- d) Obtain and document **informed consent** from the patient or client where required in accordance with relevant provincial legislation.
- e) Exercise additional care to ensure that informed consent is obtained for procedures that patients or clients could misinterpret (e.g., touch and physical closeness).
- f) Respect patients' or clients' rights to choose among service options, refuse **interventions**, or withdraw consent for all or part of the service at any time.

#### Expected Outcome

Patients and clients can expect the registrant to comply with all relevant provincial legislation concerning consent and capacity. This includes ensuring individuals are informed of the risks and benefits of service options where required by legislation, and respecting their right to give, refuse, or withdraw consent at any time.

**Informed consent** means that a patient or client agrees to a service after understanding its' purpose, benefits, risks, and available alternatives. Informed consent must be obtained when required by relevant provincial legislation and can be withdrawn by the patient or client at any time.

**Intervention/intervention strategy** refers to the various services provided to patients or clients, including, but not limited to, assessment, individual or group treatment, counselling, home programming, caregiver training, devices, and discharge planning.

**Patient or client** refers to a recipient of the services of an audiologist or speech-language pathologist.

**Professional services** refer to any service that falls within the practice of a regulated profession; for the professions of audiology and speech-language pathology, these are as outlined in the *Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Act*.

**Registrant** means an audiologist or a speech-language pathologist and any person whose name is entered in the temporary register or in any of the rosters established and maintained under the *Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Act*, the bylaws and rules.