

## **Discipline/Review Committee Case Summaries, 1998**

The discipline and review committees dealt with three cases in 1998. In accordance with changes to the *Nurses Act* introduced by the Minister of Health and Community Services, discipline decisions resulting in suspension or revocation are now published in *Info nursing*.

### Case #1

The discipline committee met to consider a complaint referred to it by the complaints committee concerning a staff nurse who allegedly misappropriated patients' medications at two places of employment, and who received a criminal conviction for the same offence at a third work site. The nurse provided the Committee with a complete written submission in which she admitted to the allegations, identified her plan of treatment and requested that her registration be revoked. The submission was accepted by the Committee and the member's registration was revoked.

### Case #2

The discipline committee held a hearing to consider a request for reinstatement from a nurse whose registration had been suspended in February 1997. The nurse had been found guilty of various offences including violation of nurse-client professional boundaries, alcohol abuse and abuse of patients and co-workers. The nurse was granted a conditional registration at the reinstatement hearing.

### Case #3

The discipline committee held a hearing to consider a complaint referred to it by the complaints committee in 1995. The hearing had been on hold pending the outcome of a criminal trial respecting the same matter and was subsequently deferred at the request of the nurse for health reasons. The nurse was found guilty of professional misconduct, conduct unbecoming a member and incompetence related to various incidents such as violation of nurse-client professional boundaries, breach of confidentiality and failure to respond appropriately to a potential medical emergency. The discipline committee revoked the member's registration. An appeal launched by the member was subsequently withdrawn.