

**Name of RSA Area: Health Law and Policy**

**Description of RSA Area (Maximum 1 page)**

The rapid pace of scientific discovery in many areas of health care coupled with the severe measures taken to contain costs has created a changing landscape in health care that challenges traditional legal approaches to managing the system.

Law is integral to some very specific aspects of the health care system. It governs relationships between providers and consumers of health care, regulates funding and accessibility, and shapes the research environment that creates health products, technologies and services. It also establishes and monitors the institutions that deliver health care services.

The six members of the Health Law and Policy Group have earned international reputations as leaders in the study of health law. Much of the research for which they have received recognition concerns genetics and biotechnology. Members of the collaborative group have participated in regional, national and international policy development. They have been invited to present their work to government and academic meetings throughout the world, including Japan, France, Italy, the UK and the United States. They have published numerous leading monographs and articles in peer-reviewed publications, and have been commissioned to write research and position papers for World Health Organization (WHO), Industry Canada, Health Canada, and the Canadian Genome Analysis and Technology Program. Members are also closely involved in the analysis of health reform issues in Canada.

The collaborative team has written or edited the five leading Canadian textbooks on health law. Two of Canada's leading health law journals are published in the Faculty of Law, including the only peer reviewed health law journal in Canada.

The group has ties to researchers throughout the world and has been involved in projects with universities or research institutes in the US and the UK as well as in Canada.