

*For immediate release*

## **\$64.8 Million Paid in Malpractice Claims Over Past 10 Years, According to New Nurse Practitioner Claims Study Released by NSO and CNA**

**HATBORO, PA March 8, 2010** - [Aon Affinity's Nurses Service Organization](#) (NSO) and [CNA HealthPro](#) have released an updated [Nurse Practitioner Claims Study](#). The study provides nurse practitioners (NP) with valuable insight regarding professional liability claims impacting their profession and a useful tool for managing their own malpractice risks.

First released in 2004, and now updated, the study is divided into three sections: (1) statistical data on malpractice lawsuits against NSO insureds, (2) risk management recommendations, and (3) highlights from an NP survey of 3,037 NSO insureds including 287 involved in malpractice claims.

### **Some of the statistical data reported by CNA include:**

- \$64.8 million was paid over the 10 years studied and \$24.9 million placed in reserve for open lawsuits.
- The average indemnity payment increased from \$168,600 in 1999 to \$189,300 in 2008.
- Average expenses including legal costs increased from \$28,500 to \$42,900.

"The study was developed to provide data and information to assist nurse practitioners identify and manage professional liability exposures, as well as promote a culture of patient safety that will ultimately enhance the quality of care," noted Bruce Dmytrow, Vice President of CNA Specialty Risk Control.

In addition to the statistical claims analysis, NSO conducted a survey of its customers to further understand the relationship between the incidence of malpractice claims and variables such as: independent versus supervised practice, level of prescriptive authority and educational background. "The results have been rather eye catching and has provided us with insight into underlying factors that may be contributing to the frequency of claims," stated Michael Loughran, Executive Vice President of NSO.

To access the complete *CNA HealthPro Nurse Practitioner Claims Study 1998-2008* and accompanying survey, visit <http://www.nso.com/NPclaimstudy2009>

**CONTACT:** Catherine Schneider at 215.293.1288 OR [catherine.schneider@aon.com](mailto:catherine.schneider@aon.com)

### **About Aon Affinity's Nurses Service Organization**

Nurses Service Organization is part of Aon Affinity, a subsidiary of Aon Corporation (NYSE: AON) that combines the specialized knowledge of affinity program management with the extensive resources of a global company to bring an everyday commitment to helping clients achieve their goals. Aon Affinity offers full-service capabilities, technical expertise and industry knowledge to add value through an innovative approach to program strategy - from the design of products and services to the delivery of the marketing message. Visit <http://www.aon.com/affinity> for more information. NSO is the largest provider of individual nurses' professional liability insurance in the U.S., serving over 675,000 nurses, nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists, and has been answering the insurance needs of the nursing profession since 1976. For more information, visit <http://www.nso.com>.

### **About CNA**

With one million business and professional policyholders, CNA is one of the largest U.S. commercial lines insurers. CNA has been making and keeping commitments to policyholders for over 100 years and is proud of its A rating from A.M. Best Company, the nation's leading independent insurance analyst. CNA has more than 30 years of experience in the professional liability field. For more information, log onto <http://www.cna.com>.