

Legal Nurse Consulting

Is the application of knowledge acquired during the course of professional nursing education, training, and clinical experience to the evaluation of standard of care, causation, damages and other medically related issues in medical-legal cases or claims.

Is the application of additional knowledge acquired through education and experience regarding applicable legal standards and/or strategy to the evaluation of medical-legal cases or claims.

Involves critical analysis of healthcare records and medical literature, as well as relevant legal documents and other information pertinent to the evaluation and resolution of medical-legal cases or claims.

Results in the development of case-specific work products and opinions for use by legal professionals or agencies handling medical-legal cases or claims.

What Makes a Legal Nurse Consultant Distinct?

As consultants, legal nurses serve as analysts, collaborators, strategists, researchers and educators. With their in-depth knowledge of nursing, medicine and the healthcare system, their contributions are recognized in all types of medical-legal cases or claims across all medical-legal settings. As such, LNCs are uniquely qualified and valuable members of the legal team.

Where Can I Find a Legal Nurse Consultant?

Visit the LNC Locator® at www.lnclocator.org to search for a legal nurse consultant by state or specialty area.

The LNC Locator® is a quick and convenient way to locate an LNC or nurse expert witness for your litigation team.

The American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants (AALNC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the professional enhancement of registered nurses practicing in a consulting capacity in the legal field.

Founded in 1989, AALNC serves as a resource to its members and provides a forum for education and the exchange of information. The AALNC Code of Ethics and Conduct provides guidelines for professional performance and practice that affirm the values and practices of the American Nurses Association.



For more information, contact:
American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants

Toll free: 877/402-2562

Web site: <http://www.aalnc.org>

E-mail: info@aalnc.org

Find us on Facebook and LinkedIn!



Copyright © 2003
Revised 2013

By the American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants
All rights reserved

What is a Legal Nurse Consultant?

The logo for the American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants (AALNC) features the acronym "AALNC" in a large, white, serif font. Below it, the full name "AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL NURSE CONSULTANTS" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. A stylized white wave graphic is positioned behind the letters of "AALNC".

AALNC
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
LEGAL NURSE CONSULTANTS

What does a Legal Nurse Consultant do?

- Participate in client interviews
- Identify, organize and analyze pertinent medical records
- Prepare a chronology, timeline or other summary of documentation in medical records
- Conduct medical literature searches and assist in other research
- Identify applicable standards of care in medical malpractice cases
- Identify, screen and facilitate review by expert witnesses
- Evaluate case strengths and weaknesses
- Draft or analyze medical portions of legal documents
- Evaluate causation and damages issues
- Educate attorneys and clients regarding relevant medical issues
- Identify plaintiff's future medical needs and associated costs
- Participate in case management and case strategy discussions
- Attend independent medical exams
- Serve as a nurse expert witness
- Perform cost of care estimates for long term care treatment and catastrophic case management scenarios
- Locate or prepare demonstrative evidence for trial
- Assist with preparation for and support during deposition, trial or ADR

Where Does the Legal Nurse Consultant Practice?

The legal nurse consultant practices in a variety of settings including:

- Law firms
- Governmental Agencies
- Insurance companies
- Health Care Facilities
- Forensic environments
- LNC Consulting firms
- HMOs
- Self-employed independent practices
- Patient Safety Organizations
- Business and Industry Legal Departments

What is the Role of the Legal Nurse Consultant?

Since the early 80s, legal nurse consultants have acted as collaborators and strategists, offering support in medically-related litigation and other medical-legal matters in a variety of practice areas including the following:

- Medical malpractice
- Personal injury
- Long term care litigation/elder law
- Product liability
- Toxic tort
- Workers' compensation
- Risk Management
- Life Care Planning
- Regulatory compliance
- Forensic/criminal
- Civil rights
- Employment discrimination
- Medicare set-aside

Why Should You Hire a Legal Nurse Consultant?

Knowledge. The legal nurse consultant has a thorough understanding of anatomy, physiology, medical treatment and disease processes.

Experience. The legal nurse consultant has extensive clinical experience, which includes interpretation of medical records and medical literature.

Resourcefulness. The legal nurse consultant possesses a network of medical and professional resources and contacts.



What is the LNCC® Credential?

Board certification is available to legal nurse consultants through the Legal Nurse Consultant Certified (LNCC®) program. Similar to clinical nursing certification, LNCC® certification demonstrates that the RN has met experience and education requirements and has passed the certification examination.

The LNCC® program is accredited by and meets the rigorous standards of the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (ABSNC), an accrediting body for specialty nursing certification programs.

Legal nurse consultants who have achieved the LNCC® credential have demonstrated knowledge, experience, and commitment to this nursing specialty.