

## LEGAL NURSE CONSULTING:

Is the application of knowledge acquired during the course of professional nursing education, training, and standard of care, causation, damages and other medically related issues in 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, relevant legal documents and other information pertinent to the evaluation and resolution of cases or claims.

Results in the development of case-specific work products and opinions for use by legal professionals or agencies handling 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 <http://www.aalnc.org/page/search> 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.

For more information, contact:  
**American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants**  
Toll free: 877/402-2562  
Web site: <http://www.aalnc.org>  
Email: [info@aalnc.org](mailto:info@aalnc.org)  
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# WHAT IS A LEGAL NURSE CONSULTANT

AALNC

American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants

## What Does a Legal Nurse Consultant Do?

- Collecting, organizing, and analyzing healthcare records, medical literature, standards, and guidelines
- Identifying record tampering, omissions, and contradictions
- Preparing chronology and/or summary of medical events
- Interviewing witnesses about the medically related case or claim
- Evaluating cases for one or more of the four elements of a medically related tort claim (duty, breach of duty, damages, and causation)
- Evaluating the merit or defensibility of a medically related case or claim
- Educating attorneys and others about the clinical facts and issues in a medically related case or claim
- Identifying, evaluating, and conferring with expert witnesses
- Serving as liaison to clients, parties, experts, and/or other witnesses
- Drafting medical portions of legal documents
- Collaborating with the legal team on case strategy
- Assisting with the adjudication of a medical-legal case or claim
- Testifying as a nurse expert or fact witness

## Where Does the Legal Nurse Consultant Practice?

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

- Law firms
- Insurance industry
- Health care risk management programs
- Case management agencies
- Litigation support firms

## What Is The Role of the Legal Nurse Consultant?

Since the early 1980s, 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.



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.