

Why LNCs Start With the Allegations

LNCTips®

WHY LNCS START WITH THE ALLEGATIONS

New LNCs often wonder why many experienced LNCs emphasize starting with the allegations. The reason is simple: the allegations tell you **what the case is actually about**. Without them, you're reviewing blind.

Allegations define the scope

Medical records can span hundreds or thousands of pages. Allegations tell you:

- what the plaintiff says went wrong
- which providers matter
- which time period matters
- which injuries or damages are being claimed

They act as your map.

Allegations tell you what matters legally

Nurses are trained to notice *everything*. **LNCs** are trained to notice what matters to the case.

The allegations help you focus on:

- the alleged breach of the standard of care
- the claimed damages
- the timeline connecting the two

Without allegations, you're just reading a chart. With allegations, you're analyzing a case.

Allegations prevent over-reviewing

New LNCs often feel obligated to carefully study every page. They don't always need to.

Allegations allow you to:

- skim repetitive records and unrelated sections/departments
- prioritize the timeline that matters
- avoid drowning in documentation

This is how LNCs avoid spending dozens of unpaid hours on a case.

Allegations guide your chronology

Your chronology isn't a summary of the entire chart. It's a **case-focused timeline**. Starting with the allegations ensures your chronology highlights the right events in the right order.

Allegations clarify causation

Causation becomes much clearer when you know:

- the alleged error
- the claimed damages
- the link the plaintiff is asserting

You can't evaluate causation if you don't know the allegations.

Why Some Experienced LNCs Don't Start With Allegations

It's true. Not everyone begins with the allegations. But there are reasons, and they don't apply to new LNCs.

Experienced experts

Experts often skip a full allegation review because they home in on the sections that pertain to their specialty. A radiologist knows exactly where to go. A wound-care nurse knows exactly what to look for. Their role is narrow, and their review reflects that.

Experienced non-expert LNCs

LNCs who review the same type of case repeatedly may only scan the allegations to identify variances. They already know the typical patterns, timelines, and pitfalls. Their experience gives them shortcuts.

But new LNCs don't have those shortcuts yet.

For new LNCs, whether consulting or expert, a full review of the allegations is essential. It keeps the review focused, prevents wasted time, and ensures the analysis is legally relevant from the start.

The bottom line

Experienced reviewers may take shortcuts, but new LNCs shouldn't. Starting with the allegations is the fastest, clearest way to understand the case and avoid hours of unnecessary review.

Start with the **Allegations**

They show you where to look.



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