

Case Review Quick Guide: Where to Start?



AMERICAN BOARD OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGERY®

✓ START DOCUMENTING.

Thorough and accurate documentation is **key to passing**. Poor documentation is the most common cause of failure for Case Review.

Pre-op H&P must include a thorough work up of the patient's condition.

Include the rationale/indications for all procedures performed in each case. For example, when performing lesser metatarsal procedures (Weil), document rationales based on symptoms or biomechanical exam.

Physical exam needs to be specific to the index procedure. For example, document first ray and first metatarsal phalangeal joint assessment for first ray procedures.

Document in the patient's chart whether they were compliant and followed post-op care instructions.

Complications happen. Document how you manage them.

Document if patient is lost to follow-up in your notes or include image of missed appointment.

If progress notes are signed at a later date, include a reference to indicate the original encounter date.

Do not limit yourself to EMR templates or prompts. Use caution when copying/pasting notes.

✓ LOG YOUR CASES.

Using the Podiatry Logging Service (PLS), log all post-residency cases for which you are the surgeon of record. You do not need to be ABFAS Board Qualified to start logging.



✓ KNOW YOUR IMAGE REQUIREMENTS.

You must obtain preoperative, initial (immediate) postoperative, and final outcome images. First ray and RRA cases must include weight-bearing pre-op and weight-bearing final images. MRIs and CT images must have individual images of up to three views clearly demonstrating pathology or findings.

	First Ray Surgery	Infection/ Other Osseous Foot Surgery	Foot and RRA Trauma	RRA Surgery
Pre-op images <i>Note: Weight-bearing not required for trauma</i>	Weight-bearing AP, Lateral	Best two views	Minimal best two views	Weight-bearing Best two views
Initial post-op images <i>Demonstrate operative alignment and fixation, if used. Intraoperative images are acceptable.</i>	AP, Lateral	Best two views	Minimal best two views	Best two views
Final outcome images <i>Latest final postoperative images. Images from last visit.</i> <i>Demonstrate removal of provisional/temporary hardware and radiographic osseous union of osteotomies, fusions, and fractures.</i>	Weight-bearing AP, Lateral	Best two views	Minimal best two views of correction	Weight-bearing Best two views

✓ PLAN AHEAD FOR PRACTICE CHANGES.

Discuss with employers early on how you can access records and images required for Case Review if you end up leaving the organization. Negotiate an MOU or include specific terms in your agreement.

✓ QUALIFY FOR CASE REVIEW.

Review the ABFAS Board Certification Document for the required minimum case requirements for case review eligibility. Make sure to check the BC document each year for updates!

PLS will inform you when you have met the quantity and diversity eligibility requirements to register for Case Review.

