Clinical Research Documentation

ALCOA PLUS Checklist

"If it wasn't documented, it wasn't done."

Attributable

It should be obvious who created a record & when. It should be obvious who made changes, when & why.

Legible

The research data should be easy to read.

Contemporaneous

Data should be recorded as it is observed. All signatures/initials should be dated.

Original

Study records should be originals, not photocopies.

Accurate

For data to be viable it should be error free.
Data quality must be maintained.

A L C O A

P L U S

Complete

Data should feature a trackable audit trail to prove nothing has been deleted or lost.

Consistent

Data should be chronologically arranged, with time stamps included for any addition to the original data.

Enduring

The material used to record data should last a long duration without losing readability.

Available

Data should be accessible in a readable format whenever needed, over the life of the data.