

**Mission:**

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



**Ron DeSantis**  
Governor

**Scott A. Rivkees, MD**  
State Surgeon General

**Vision:** To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

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**To: Florida Reporting Facilities and Abstractors****RE: Patient Social Security Number (SSN) – A Florida Mandated Data Item**

The Florida Department of Health would like to remind all reporting entities that a complete and accurately transcribed social security number (SSN) is a required data item that **MUST** be reported to the state cancer registry, the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS). Per Rule 64D-3, *Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)*, diseases or conditions of public health significance identified by the Florida Department of Health must be reported by the practitioner, hospital, laboratory, or other entity or individual, and this report must include at a minimum the patient's first and last name, including middle initial; address, including city, state, and zip code; telephone number, including area code; date of birth; sex; race; ethnicity; **social security number**; diagnosis; type of diagnostic tests; and treatment given. Cancer is a reportable disease in the state of Florida and all reportable cancers submitted to the FCDS must have an accurate, complete social security number (SSN).

Within the reporting entity, the appropriate assigned staff (e.g. registrar and abstractor) **MUST** have access to a complete and valid SSN for every case reported to the FCDS, regardless of cancer program affiliation, health care network policy, corporate policy or local institutional policy restricting access to these data. Reportable cancers **MUST** be submitted to the FCDS with full SSN. There are no exceptions to this reporting rule.

The number of unknown SSNs submitted to the FCDS must be kept to an absolute minimum. Partial SSN (last 4-digits or last 6-digits) and IT or billing system generated proxy SSN are not acceptable and will be rejected if uploaded to the FCDS. Operationally, the FCDS is required to match and consolidate cancer cases to accurately determine the cancer burden in the state. Cancer burden statistics disseminated from the FCDS are integral to local, state, and national cancer prevention and intervention efforts.

For more information on current reporting requirements to the FCDS and specific coding instructions, please reference the Florida Cancer Data System Data Acquisition Manual (FCDS DAM). Specifically, within the 2018 FCDS DAM, Section II pages 69-70, the collection and coding of social security number (SSN) is outlined.

Thank you for your continued support of Florida's statewide cancer surveillance and registry. If you should have any further questions please contact Gary Levin at (305) 243-4073 or [glevin@med.miami.edu](mailto:glevin@med.miami.edu).

Sincerely,

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Public Health Research  
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