

FCDS MONTHLY MEMO

AUGUST 2000

FCDS would like to thank all of the health professionals who attended the FCDS Annual Conference in Melbourne. The conference was informative for both new and experienced registrars. We were honored to award the Fourth Annual Jean Byers Memorial Award for Excellence in Cancer Registration to over 45 Florida hospitals...Congratulations! A conference summary and listing of Jean Byers Award recipients will be featured in the next issue of The Register as well as on the FCDS WebSite, <http://www.fcds.med.miami.edu>. FCDS expects formal NCRA approval of 11 continuing education hours for the conference. Certificates of Attendance will be mailed out to all attendees sometime in September.

The next FCDS Incidence Abstracting Training Workshop will be held October 25-27, 2000 at the Coral Gables Holiday Inn (Miami). Contact Bleu Herard or Betty Fernandez at FCDS for registration information. Persons wishing to pursue self-study can contact either Steven Peace or Mayra Alvarez at FCDS for a listing of education resources. FCDS (305) 243-4600.

VITAL STATISTICS RECORDS

In June 2000, FCDS mailed out Death Certificate Notification Forms for cases documented as cancer related hospital deaths by the Vital Statistics Department, but not reported to FCDS by the hospital. The Death Certificate Notification Forms (DCN) are part of each facility's accounting for case completeness and must be returned to FCDS on the abstract form and within the timeframe allotted. Please do not submit these cases electronically as it creates linkage problems between the FCDS database and the Vital/Death Records database. The deadline was July 15, 2000 for the Death Certificate Notification forms. If you have not completed review of these cases, please do so ASAP and return to FCDS. If the patient did not expire at your facility or had no evidence of cancer when they expired, please make a handwritten note on the DCN form clearly stating the reason the case will not be reported. **REMEMBER** to assign an **ACCESSION NUMBERS** to abstracted DCN cases. It is not possible for FCDS staff to assign accession numbers to your cases.

FCDS ABSTRACTING SOFTWARE - VERSION 3A

(Corrects Version 3.0 accession number problem)

The FCDS DOS-based Comprehensive Incidence Abstracting Software, Version 3.0 had a minor problem with the year 2000 accession #'s not incrementing correctly. This problem has been corrected with Version 3A.

(Note: The software meets all requirements for electronic abstracting and transmission of data to FCDS up to and including the year 2000 data. There is no cost for the software, but there is a support charge of \$77.50 per hour if you need assistance with installation or problem solving.

BACK UP YOUR DATA FILES BEFORE INSTALLING THIS SOFTWARE!

If you already are running Version 3, you can easily download the Version 3A upgrade by downloading only the abstract.exe file. This file can usually be found in the C:\Abstract directory of your computer. Log on to the FCDS WebSite at www.fcds.med.miami.edu. Look for the link for Abstract.exe, follow the directions and remember to SAVE the file in the same directory as Version 3. If downloaded correctly, this method will not overwrite your data files (where your abstracted information is stored).

If you need to download the complete program (you are not currently using FCDS Version 3), you can also download the complete FCDS Abstracting Software package, Version 3A through the FCDS WebSite. Look for it under "Links", "FCDS related files". The software can be downloaded in two different ways. You may download the entire program in either a compressed zip archive file or in a self-extracting executable file that when unzipped (or executed) prompts you to create an "install" disk (requires a blank formatted floppy disk). The creation of an "install" disk can be of help if your system "crashes" so you have the complete software (but not your data files) on diskette. Data files should be backed up on a regular basis by using the FCDS Abstracting Software Menu.

To install the complete software, follow the instructions below. The instructions assume your floppy drive is drive A and you will be installing the software into a directory named C:\ABSTRACT.

- 1) If you are running under Windows, start a DOS shell window: Start->Run, type COMMAND, and press return.
- 2) Change to the main C: directory by typing CD C:\ and pressing return. You should now be at the DOS prompt "C:>".
- 3) Place the FCDS diskette in drive A.
- 4) At the C:> prompt, type A:\INSTALL C:\ABSTRACT and press return to start the install. When prompted, choose the drive letter you are installing from.
- 5) When the process has been completed remove the diskette from the drive.
- 6) Start the Revised V3.A software. At the C:> type CD C:\ABSTRACT, press return, then type ABSTRACT.EXE and press return to run the program.
- 7) Re-index the files by going to the MAIN MENU, selecting Utilities and then selecting Re-index files.

FCDS ABSTRACTING SOFTWARE - VERSION 3A, continued

Finally, you may also choose to contact Melissa Williams, Senior Staff Assistant at FCDS to request the FCDS Abstracting Software, Version 3A on diskette. Please read the README.TXT file included with the program for our FCDS Disclaimer, year 2000 information, and requirements for the program.

Should you have any questions regarding the software, you may contact Mark Rudolph at mrudolph@miami.edu or (305) 243-2626.

STAGING QUESTIONS:

Q. A pathology report identifying an adenoma with foci of Adenoca insitu in the colon. The gastroenterologist did not think he could assign the clinical N and clinical M without a resection and/or the presence of CT's.

A. ROADS: This case can be clinically staged. If there is no further therapy, the gastroenterologist is responsible for assigning the clinical stage. The stage would be pTis CN0 M0, Stage Group 0. If the colonoscopy was the only treatment for the in situ lesion then a treatment decision was made which is the purpose of clinical staging.

Q. Histology: Paget's disease and intraductal carcinoma of breast 8543/3 TNM Staging: Paget's disease without associated mass or invasive component is classified as Tis. SEER stage is localized. The behavior of 3 would indicate an invasive tumor. Please clarify.

A. ROADS: Paget's disease even without an associated mass is still skin invasion of the nipple by a ductal carcinoma. The correct code for Paget's disease without an associated mass is 8540/3. AJCC considers this a Tis lesion, even though the histology is invasive (like lamina propria invasion in the colon). We consulted with April Fritz, CTR for the answer to this question.

Q. Patient has biopsy of a left thumb mass followed by left thumb amputation. Pathology report states subungual melanoma extends through cortical bone into underlying soft tissue depth of invasion 1.4 cm and margins free. Is SEER stage distant? Physician AJCC staged T4a N1 (due to positive nodes) and M0. Is this correct or would the involvement of bone and soft tissue due to direct extension be considered M1a?

A. ROADS: According to AJCC, the involvement of soft tissue and bone would make this distant by direct extension.

Q. Patient has primary of rectosigmoid with positive peritoneal washings - would this be regional extension or distant mets per SEER and would this be distant mets per TNM staging?

A. ROADS: Positive peritoneal washings would be classified as a pM1. The stage group would be IV as this includes any T and any N classifications. SEER General Summary Stage for this case would be Distant. For assistance coding SEER EOD, please contact April Fritz at (301) 402-1625 or fritza@dcpcpn.nci.nih.gov

STAGING QUESTIONS, continued:

Q. SEER staging for Hodgkin's Disease: If the patient has regional disease (for example a mediastinal mass and a positive supraclavicular node) which stage of disease code would be used? 2-regional by direct extension 3-regional to lymph, nodes 4-regional (both 2 & 3), 5-regional, NOS?

A. ROADS: Since this is a stage II case, use regional, NOS(5). Summary stages 2 and 4 are not appropriate, and 3 is misleading during analysis

EDUCATION

NAACCR WebSite EDUCATION & TRAINING WebSite links

www.naacr.org/Training/Guidelines.html

Confidentiality Issues

- [Confidentiality Policy Statement](#)
- [Anatomy of a Rumor](#)
- [Challenges to Data Confidentiality: From Rumor to Court Order](#)
- [Confidentiality and the Cancer Registry](#)
- [Massachusetts Confidential](#)
- [Recent Data Privacy Legislation in Minnesota](#)

Guidelines

- ◆ [Team Building to Enhance Data Quality](#) (PDF)

Health Level 7 (HL7)

- [Adopting the HL7 Standard for Cancer Registry Work](#) by T Tucker, H Howe, B Kohler and JP Fulton

Cancer Registry Management Report

- [Report](#)

Timeliness of Cancer Reporting: Assessment and Improvement

- [Part 1 of 3](#)
- [Part 2 of 3](#)
- [Part 3 of 3](#)

University of Southern California Cancer Surveillance Program This program is co-sponsored by Southern California Cancer Registrars Association. The objective of the USC Cancer Registrar Training Program, established in 1976, is to prepare individuals to be employed as cancer registrars with the basic skills necessary to initiate and operate a cancer registry as part of a hospital cancer program. The 24-day program is presented each Spring, with classes held two days per week for 12 consecutive weeks. The subject matter is presented in six modules: Introduction to Cancer, Abstracting, Biostatistics & Epidemiology, Follow-Up, Computerization, and Cancer Program Management. Contact: Donna Morrell, CTR, Director at (323) 442-2334. E-mail: dmorrell@hsc.usc.edu

EDUCATION, continued

September 18-22, 2000 – The Commission on Cancer will conduct a Basic Cancer Registry Data Collection workshop at the Headquarters of the American College of Surgeons, 633 N. Saint Clair Street, 28th Floor, Chicago, Illinois, 60611, (312) 202-5085. Registration Fee is \$400 that includes the course materials only. If you have any questions about the class, please contact Pat Tary at 312/202-5410 or ptary@facs.org

September 19, 2000, The Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, FL at the Town Hall Meeting will address Colorectal Cancer Awareness and prevention from 11am to 2pm. For more information please, contact Maribel Fuentes at (305) 585-5074 or (305) 585-6142; email at mfuentes@med.miami.edu

September 25 – 26, 2000, NAACCR 2000 - E-Toolkit Workshop being held at the Double Tree Hotel Seattle, Washington at 205 Strander Blvd, Seattle, WA 98188. 1-800-222-8733. Topics will focus on how to run EDITS, writing your own edits and encrypting your registry data for submission, how to use new epidemiological transmission tolls, a special round table on death clearance, duplicate protocols, and registry certification process, procedures for the Call-for-Data 2001 will be outlined as well. For more information contact: Joellyn Hotes (217) 698-0800 Ext. 3. WebSite: www.naacr.org/News/index.html

October 13, 2000, The Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH) in Miami, FL will sponsor an Oncology Workshop. Location JMH, Diagnostic Treatment Center from 7:30 a.m.-1:00p.m. For more information contact: Lisette Acosta (305)(305)585-6533. *CEU's applied for*

October 25-27, 2000, Miami, FL - FCDS Incidence Abstracting Workshop. The cost is \$100. Please contact Betty Fernandez or Bleu Herrard at (305) 243-4600 for information and registration

December 4-8, 2000 - The National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) program, Principles of Oncology for Cancer Registry Professionals presented by Bolger Center for Leadership Development Potomac, Maryland. Registration fee: \$595.00. Principles of Oncology is a five-day training program in cancer registry operations and procedures emphasizing accurate data collection. The training program includes extensive site-specific, hands-on case abstracting and coding sessions using both full medical records and abstracts that demonstrate the many situations that registrars may face. Faculty includes April Fritz, BA, ART, CTR, Manager of Data Quality at the National Cancer Institute's SEER Program, april.fritz@nih.gov. For more information, contact the National Cancer Institute at (301) 496-8510 or contact April Fritz, ART, CTR, 6130 Executive Blvd, Room EPN343J, Rockville, MD 20852, phone: (301) 402-1625, fax: (301) 496-9949.

EDUCATION, continued

February 5-6, 2001, The Florida Cancer Registrars Association will be having a CTR Exam Review Workshop at the at Mayo Clinic Jacksonville, FL. The cost is \$100. Please contact FCRA Education Chairman for more information and registration, Mary O'Leary, RHIT, CTR at (305) 243-4961, Fax: (305) 243-5239 or e-mail: moleary@med.miami.edu

May 22-25, 2001 - National Cancer Registrars Association -NCRA Annual Conference will be held at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Village, Orlando, Florida. Carol Johnson, president-elect is looking for Florida Registrars and Central Registry volunteers to help staff the hospitality & registration booths as well as the cocktail reception. Any suggestions for local speakers, and volunteers are welcomed. Contact Carol Johnson, 301-402-6226, carol.johnson@NIH.gov or contact Edie Kutlus (302) 798-3978, email at Ekutlus@cppsinc.com. NCRA (913) 438-6272 or email NCRA at: ncra-info@goamp.com. WebSite: www.ncra-usa.org.

DEADLINES

HOSPITALS

ALL 1999 cases were DUE June 30, 2000

Hospitals should now be reporting February 2000 cases.

ALL 1998 Death Certificate Notification (DCN) cases were due July 15, 2000

AMBULATORY CANCER CARE REPORTING PROGRAM (AACRP)

ALL 1997 & 1998 Cases were DUE June 30, 2000

(this includes all AHCA Unmatched Cancer Records Listings and Abstracting)