

## JANUARY MONTHLY MEMO

The beginning of each new year provides FCDS with an opportunity to learn from the recent past. As a part of our annual start of year procedures, FCDS reviews the previous year's reporting experience. Cancer reporting during calendar year 2001 has provided us with a lot of new information on a whole lot of cases processed, edited and quality controlled (over 140,000 !!!) We will be reviewing all of the usual FCDS program components such as the most common edits failed, types and numbers of cases forced, etc., in order to identify areas for further education & training, suggestions for modifications to existing policies & procedures, and topics needing clarification in the FCDS DAM.



### Casefinding

FCDS wants to remind all reporting facilities that there are new reportable diagnoses that went into effect beginning with January 1, 2001 admissions. New ICD-9 codes must be included in diagnostic index casefinding procedures and pathology casefinding must include new diagnoses, see FCDS DAM page 1-8 and the ICD-O-3 for complete case identification and case reporting references.

Completeness of reporting is one of the primary goals of FCDS. There is only one way to assure that ALL cancer cases are identified and abstracted by every healthcare facility in our state...that is to systematically casefind all case identification sources and to review every medical record and admission identified during the case identification process.

Casefinding sources must include reviewing ALL Patient Services including Inpatient, Outpatient, Ambulatory Surgical, Clinics, Radiation Oncology, Bone Marrow Transplants, Surgical Pathology Reports, Autopsy Reports, Bone Marrow Biopsy Reports, Electron Microscopy Reports, etc. This also includes any additional healthcare facilities directly associated with your facility. Complete casefinding MUST be performed in EVERY reporting facility in the state of Florida.

### FCDS EDITS

FCDS has recently received clarification from the NAACCR EDITS Work Group which clarified FCDS Edits 40 and 245. These edits require an edit override in situations where a patient has more than one primary cancer and one of the primaries being reported is an Unknown Primary, Ill-Defined Site or Ill-defined leukemia or lymphoma. FCDS temporarily changed these two edits to Warnings while we awaited clarification from the EDITS Work Group. FCDS has since made two minor changes in edit 245 and both FCDS Edit 40 and FCDS Edit 245 are now once again full edits, not warnings. These cases require an edit override. The reasoning behind these SEER-derived edits is that if a patient has a known cancer and you are also reporting an unknown cancer or ill-defined cancer including ill-defined leukemia or lymphoma... justification is needed to assure that the unknown cancer is not in fact a metastasis from the known cancer(s).

If the Edit Check Discrepancy Journal indicates that the morphology is not valid for the specified site, please attach documentation (path report, discharge summary, etc.) to verify the combination, in lieu of an acceptable change in either topography or morphology. These edits will be manually overridden (forced) by FCDS. The accompanying documentation will be used to verify and validate coded data and forwarded to the quality control section for edit override/force

Please be aware of patient confidentiality when mailing or faxing patient information to FCDS. In lieu of including patient name on any correspondence, please be sure to include a legible patient identifier, such as accession number, on the documentation in order to verify patient identification. Again, DO NOT E-MAIL patient information to FCDS.





<http://www.naacr.org/techhelp/faq>

**Q.** The patient had CA in-situ of the cervix and is now diagnosed with a recurrent, invasive carcinoma of the cervix. Please clarify "at the time of diagnosis" vs- "progression of disease".

**A.** SEER/NAACCR rule: report invasive CA occurring more than 2 months after an in-situ as a separate primary. At the time of DX within 2 months of original DX. Disease progression: pt not clinically free of disease, tumor became progressively more invasive.

**UPDATE - 2001 FCDS DATA ACQUISITION MANUAL**

A few minor errors/data item changes & clarifications have been identified. The 2002 DAM Errata will be mailed out soon. Thanks.



**1998 FCDS ANNUAL REPORT**

The 1998 FCDS Annual Cancer Report is now available on line at [FCDS.med.miami.edu](http://FCDS.med.miami.edu). The annual report publications began in 1995, providing updates on cancer incidence and mortality in Florida. The purpose of this report is to provide researchers, policy makers, health professionals and the public with an overview of the status of cancer in Florida.

The series was developed by the Bureau of Epidemiology of the Florida Department of Health in collaboration with the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) at the University of Miami School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. For more details visit our website at <http://FCDS.med.miami.edu>.

**Vendor Update**



FCDS and Medical Registry Services (MRS) recently clarified the use of the FCDS-required code of "9" for the data item Scope Reg LN Surg for Leukemia, Lymphoma, Unknown Primary, Brain tumors and other more clearly specified Hematopoietic conditions. *Note: These clarifications came about as a result of the COC 2003 clarifications and changes for use of this data item which go into effect 1/1/2003.*

FCDS has written a pre-script that is now being run during the FCDS upload program which automatically enters a "9" into this field anytime one of the **specific new conditions** (i.e. multiple myeloma, myelodysplastic syndrome, etc.) are submitted in order to ensure that the FCDS-required code of "9" is entered in the field.

However, if a case is entered as Unknown Primary, Leukemia, Lymphoma of any site or a Brain tumor, FCDS will require that a "9" be entered in the Scope Reg LN Surgery field. These conditions were included in the COC/ROADS Surgery Clarification Table of 1999.

*Note: This prescript will run until January 2003 at which time the new COC requirements will go into effect for the additional site and histology-specific lympho-hematopoietic conditions.*

A corollary discussion addressed how to code Date of Surgery when Surgery of Primary Site = 00, but Surgery of Other/Reg/Dist Sites and/or Scope Reg LN Surgery does not = 0. FCDS requires that a surgery date be entered in these cases. MRS will be updating their program in late February to ensure that FCDS receives dates in the surgery field.

**Education & Training**

**SEER Update — <http://seer.cancer.gov>**

SEER recently introduced several new web-based training modules on their website with additional modules under development. When the site is completed it will contain 12 individual training modules, each covering a particular area of cancer registration.

The following SEER training modules are currently available:

SEER TRAINING MODULES

- ◆ SEER Summary Stage 2000
- ◆ ICD-O-3 Training module
- ◆ Cancer Registration
- ◆ Cancer Treatment
- ◆ Cancer as a Disease
- ◆ Casefinding — **coming soon!**
- ◆ Anatomy & Physiology & Diagnostic Test- **coming soon!**

INFORMATIONAL MODULES

- ◆ ICD-O-3 Satellite Training Video
- ◆ Summary Staging 2000 Manual

**Future CTR Exam Dates**

<u>Application Deadline</u>	<u>Exam Date</u>
February 1, 2002	March 16, 2002
August 1, 2002	Sept. 14 2002

Visit the NBCR Website for Testing Information: <http://www.nbc.org>

**Tumor Size - Melanoma**

Effective for January 1, 2002 diagnoses and admissions:

In the tumor size field you must code depth of invasion in Hundredths of a millimeter for all cases of melanoma of the skin, vulva, penis, scrotum and conjunctive.

The COC has made this determination and the NAACCR Uniform Data Standards Committee has approved the change effective 1/1/02.

Example: Melanoma with a depth of invasion of 0.5 mm is recorded 050, and a 1 mm depth of invasion is recorded 100 in the tumor size field.

For a copy of the latest COC updates visit the COC website <http://www.facs.org/dept/>

**CoC March 2002 Workshop Canceled**

The year 2003 will usher in many important changes related to the CoC's standards, "ROADS," and the AJCC Collaborative Stage and TNM staging. For this reason, the CoC has decided that it would be more beneficial to their course participants to wait until these changes are finalized and nearing implementation before they continue any further instructional courses. While COC still plans to offer instructional presentations of these changes during the NCRA meeting, they will postpone more complete educational courses until a later date. The CoC will contact those who have already registered for the March Workshop, and a full refund will be provided. If you have any questions regarding the refund, please contact Mary Ann Marts at [mmarts@facs.org](mailto:mmarts@facs.org).



## Education & Training

### FCRA CTR Exam Review & Basic Skills Workshops, Jan.31- Feb. 1, 2002

The Florida Cancer Registrars Association will conduct a two-day CTR Exam Review Workshop and a concurrent Basic Skills Workshop at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida, January 31-February 1, 2002. The CTR Exam Review is an informative workshop that will review all of the major components included in the CTR Exam.

The Basic Skills Workshop is directed at registrars with less than two years experience who are not yet eligible to take the CTR exam. This workshop will provide an introduction to the basic knowledge and skills required by cancer registry functions. The cost for either of the workshops is \$100. Please contact Helen Lewis, BS, CTR, FCRA Education Chair, for further information and/or registration. Phone (813) 632-1305, fax (813) 632-1435.

### NCRA Annual Educational Conference, May 21 - 24 2002

The [National Cancer Registrars Association](http://www.ncra-usa.org) will host the **Annual NCRA Educational Conference** at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN May 21-24, 2002. Visit the NCRA website: [www.ncra-usa.org](http://www.ncra-usa.org) for more information.

### NAACCR Annual Conference, June 11 - 13, 2002

The 2002 meeting of the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries will be held at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto, Ontario, Canada from June 11-13, 2002. The conference is being hosted by Cancer Care Ontario. The meeting theme is "Achieving Equity in Cancer Control." In addition to the main conference, there will be some pre- and post-workshops on registries operations, research and medical informatics. Watch the News & Events section of NAACCR web site for more details as they become available, <http://www.naacr.org>, or you can contact Darlene Dale at Cancer Care Ontario, (416) 217-1228, or [Darlene.Dale@cancercare.on.ca](mailto:Darlene.Dale@cancercare.on.ca).

### FCRA/FCDS Combined Annual Conference, July 31 - August 2, 2002

The Florida Cancer Registrars Association (FCRA) and the Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) will co-host a combined Annual Educational Conference at the Hyatt Sarasota on Sarasota Bay from July 31, 2002 to August 2, 2002. The cost of the conference is \$75. For more information, please contact Jamie Suarez, CTR, FCRA Program Chair at [jsuarez@uhs.com](mailto:jsuarez@uhs.com) or Bleu Herard, FCDS at 305-243-4600. Program registration and flyers will be mailed to all FCRA members as well as all FCDS-identified facilities, contractors and courtesy mailing parties in March.

### Advanced Cancer Registry Training Program, August 5 - 7, 2002

The **Advanced Cancer Registry Training Program** specifically covers: abstracting, staging, and coding really difficult cancer cases; bizarre, rare, and unusual cancer cases; calculating incidence, prevalence, age-adjusted, survival, and other rates; using registry data (preparation, analysis, annual reports, etc.); and using the Internet to locate comparable data and useful cancer information and resources. Participants must have attended the website [www.sph.emory.edu/GCCS/training/practice/index](http://www.sph.emory.edu/GCCS/training/practice/index) prior to registering for this advanced training (or have at least one year of experience working in a cancer registry). Registration Fee: \$500. The course will be held on the campus of Emory University in the Rita Anne Rollins Conference Room located on the 8th Floor of the Rollins School of Public Health, 1518 Clifton Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30322. For further information about the training program, accommodations or travel arrangements, contact: Steven Roffers, PA, CTR, Phone: 404-727-4535, Fax: 404-727-7261, E-mail: [sroffer@sph.emory.edu](mailto:sroffer@sph.emory.edu)

### Principles and Practice of Cancer Registration, Surveillance, and Control, November 4-8, 2002

Principles and Practice of Cancer Registrations, Surveillance, and Cancer Control will be held at the Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia November 4-8, 2002.

A staff of recognized experts in cancer registration, surveillance, and cancer control teaches this intensive and comprehensive training program.

The instructors are accomplished adult trainers and are internationally recognized as leaders in their fields.

Complete details are available on the training program web site at <http://cancer.sph.emory.edu> or contact Steven Roffers, PA, CTR at (404) 727-4535.



**DEADLINES**

**HOSPITALS**

**Hospitals should now be reporting July 2001 cancer cases**

Reminder: All Hospitals should be at least for 70 % complete for the 2001 Reporting Year by the end of February, 2002

**AMBULATORY CENTERS CANCER REPORTING PROGRAM (ACCRP)**

The Deadline for Reporting All 1999 Patient Encounters was September 30, 2001



We're on the Web!  
FCDS.med.miami.edu

**QUALITY CONTROL - Every 25<sup>th</sup> Record Sampling Report**

The FCDS QC staff is currently reviewing reports from the 3rd & 4th Quarter for the **Every 25<sup>th</sup> Record Sampling Report**. These reports provide FCDS & you with a visual review of at least every 25<sup>th</sup> record that FCDS receives from every facility. The report contains all the data downloaded to FCDS by your facility. A copy of each of the cases reviewed will be mailed to you. FCDS asks that you review each case report and provide us with feedback on any comments or questions noted on any of the reports.



**Florida Cancer Data System**  
University of Miami School of Medicine  
P.O. Box 016960 (D4-11)  
Miami, FL 33101

669401



**FCDS 2002 EDUCATIONAL TELEPHONE CONFERENCE SERIES**

***FCDS WILL BE HOSTING A PHONE-IN TELECONFERENCE ON***

February 21, 2002. The topic is ***Technical Expertise—Just a Click Away!***

The presentation will provide participants with an overview of the latest & coolest web-based and other electronic tools and resources readily available to the registrar to help with day to day abstracting and registry operations. Participants will be able to navigate key cancer registry related websites, download important help programs and become familiar with web-based and other electronic tools currently available to everybody.

Objective: Enhance knowledge and experience of the registrar to utilize the Internet for abstracting; researching cancer related information and other related topics via internet.

On February 14, 2002, the Power-point slide presentation will be available on the FCDS Website at (<http://fcds.med.miami.edu>).

We suggest that you download the presentation and follow the slideshow from your computer during the call. You may also print the slideshow for future reference. If for some reason you do not have access to the FCDS website, you may contact FCDS and we will mail or fax you a copy of the slide show. Please do not wait until the last minute to request mailed or faxed copies of the slides

**CALL INFORMATION**

Date of Conference: February 21, 2002

Time of Conference: 2pm – 3pm EST

Name of Conference: ***Technical Expertise—Just a Click Away!***

Telephone Number: (888) 830-6260 (note: This is a Toll-Free Number)

Call –in Code: 808984