

The Criterion



California Cancer Registry

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Educational Opportunities

Statewide Training: Site specific modules on bladder, ovary, and lymphoma are available under Registrar Resources at www.ccrca.org.

October 6-8, 2010: CCRA 37th Educational Conference for Cancer Registry Professionals, Fresno. Contact: www.ccraregistrar.org

December 10, 2010: SCCRA Annual Meeting, Long Beach Memorial Medical Center. Contact: Rolando Arcibal, RArcibal@memorialcare.org

Reminders

DSQC Welcomes Lois Infrerra

The CCR DSQC Unit is pleased to welcome Lois Infrerra, RHIA, CTR. Lois has a diverse background including managing hospital Health Information Management

About This Issue

Katheryne Vance, BA, CTR

Here we are at mid-2010 and the finishing touches are being integrated into the 2010 Data Changes. Like building a custom house, the finish work seems to be the most tedious and most time consuming.

The Collaborative Stage Version 2 (CSv2) Data Collection and Coding Manual serves as the foundation and frame work. The NAACCR version 12 standards along with specific program standards from SEER and ACoS further define details and specifications of these major data changes. The major building phase was your participation in the statewide CSv2 training; approximately 400 cancer registrars participated!

In *Registrars Data and Cancer Cluster*, Joanne Wellman, RDH, MPH, Health Education Consultant, from the CCR's Cancer Surveillance & Research Unit, describes how the data cancer registrars collect are vital to fulfilling the CCR's charge of responding to the public about concerns regarding possible cancer clusters.

Kathy Marineau, CTR, reminds us not to forget the principles of constructing an abstract in *ACK! Everything's Changing-Again*.

Follow-Up reflects that the spirit of cooperation and generosity is portrayed by many individuals in the CCR community and that we have expanded an avenue with Genentech.

I would like to acknowledge the contribution that Cathy Schindler made to the CSv2 Statewide Training project. Cathy has been with the Data Standards and Quality Control Unit as an Administrative Assistant since February. Cathy's organizational talents, expediency, professionalism, and sense of humor added to the success of the statewide CSv2 training project. Thank you, Cathy!



Departments and serving as faculty for several junior college HIM Programs. Her cancer registry experience includes working as a hospital based cancer registrar, a vendor and most recently, working at the Cancer Prevention Institute of California (CPIC) as a visual editor. Her vast background will serve her well as she takes on the responsibility of maintaining the CCR Volume I Standards document. Welcome aboard, Lois!

Data Change Alerts Posted

For our reference, all 2010 Data Changes Alerts are posted on the CCR website www.ccrca.org under Registrar Resources.

Quick Links

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Registrar's Data and Cancer Clusters

Joanne Wellman, RDH, MPH

One of the many roles the California Department of Public Health's California Cancer Registry (CDPH/CCR) has is to respond to the public about concerns regarding possible cancer clusters.

A cancer cluster refers to a greater than expected number of a particular type of cancer diagnosed during a specified time period among those who live or work in the same geographic area. CCR data is used to determine if the number of cancer cases in the area of concern is excessive in comparison to usual patterns.

A true cancer cluster, however, is extremely rare. But, a group of cancer cases may qualify as a cancer cluster if they involve a single type of cancer, a rare type of cancer, or one that is not seen in the age group impacted, such as a cancer in a child that is normally seen in adults.

[Click to continue this article.](#)

ACK! Everything's Changing-Again

Kathy Marineau, CTR

Well, not quite everything is changing. We can take solace in some tried and true sections of Volume One. We still have 2009 cases to finish and we will always have the occasional case with a prior year date of diagnosis to abstract. So we keep the old paper manuals. In addition, several years of Volume One remain available on the www.ccrca.org web site.

As we focus on new data items, expanding codes, researching the nuances of MPH, and learning to use the 2010 Hematopoietic database, we can't forget about other data items that are often glossed over or coded out of habit. It is these other data items that lead me to re-read the same sections of Volume One, over and over. I keep a list of the commonly missed items for handy reference whether I'm abstracting or doing visual editing. [Click to continue this article.](#)

Follow-Up

Katheryne Vance, BA, CTR

This article is not about patient follow-up, it is a follow-up to the statewide CSv2 training.

On behalf of the CSv2 training team (Gerri, Kamala, Michelle, Shawky, and myself), we would like to thank all of the registrars who attended the trainings. Your attendance, participation in discussions, and pertinent questions made for a successful training project. Almost 400 registrars attended one of the eleven trainings!

Remember, this initial training was the beginning of CSv2 implementation. Currently, we are working on responding to your questions by sending many of the questions on to the CSv2 Team. The questions and responses will be distributed as a statewide DSQC Memorandum. [Click to continue this article.](#)