

ARKANSAS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

February 2025 Monthly Newsletter



ACCR EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES

Topic: Common Coding Errors
Presenter: Janet Raleigh, ODS-C

Date/Time: February 11, 2025 @ 12 pm CST
Contact Melissa.Chapman@arkansas.gov for webinar access.



DID YOU KNOW?

4 out of 10 cancer cases are associated with preventable risk factors!

Learn more about preventable risk factors by [clicking here](#), or search for the American Association for Cancer Research - Cancer 2024 Progress Report in your internet browser.



Quitting smoking
is one of the most
effective ways to
prevent cancer
from developing



Exercise
Regularly



Get
Vaccinated



Protect
Your Skin



WORLD CANCER DAY 2025 IS FEBRUARY 4TH!

A new World Cancer Day campaign 2025-27 'United by Unique' emphasizes the people at the center of care while exploring new and exciting ways of making a difference. This effort offers a three-year journey beginning with raising awareness to taking action.

Cancer is more than a disease, it is a unique story, with each patient having different needs. Behind every diagnosis is a person with their own unique experience that includes emotions of hope, fear, love, denial, and gratitude. These stories encompass each unique human and their experience with cancer, not just the individual with the diagnosis, but their parents, friends, siblings, and loved ones. United by Unique is treating patients through a people-centered approach, integrating these needs to not only treat the disease but the person as well.

#UnitedByUnique

Share your story or explore stories at worldcancerday.org. You can also access curated social media messages with social media cards at worldcancerday.org/materials.



ABSTRACTOR UPDATES

Solid Tumor Rules - [STM MANUAL](#)

- *It is encouraged to download the manual, do not use the on-line version*
 - Individual site modules are no longer provided
- Use General Instructions along with site-specific rules
- An Ambiguous terminology work group will be reviewing ambiguous terms for coding histology *only* for the Solid Tumor Rules
 - Ambiguous terms used in reportability, and EOD are *not* being reviewed
- Cancer PathChart search tool has been added

[SEER REGISTRAR NEWS](#) Click the link to sign up for e-mail announcements pertinent to NCI SEER, other standard setters, and cancer registries. Information shared will be regarding resources available on the SEER web site including updates to manuals, announcements, studies, etc.

[NAACCR LISTSERV](#) Click the link to sign up for e-mail announcements on changes to the cancer registry field. NAACCR also has a LISTSERV Archive where you can view past announcements. Employment opportunities, coding changes, and education opportunities are often sent via NAACCR's LISTSERV.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The 26th Arkansas Cancer Summit with the 22nd Clearing the Air in Communities of Color Conference

The Arkansas Cancer Summit is one of ACC's many well-documented successes and has always been centered on the growth and evolution of the Arkansas Cancer Plan and the partners that make up the Arkansas Cancer Coalition. The Summit provides a time for partners to celebrate, reflect and build new skills and networks. Even though the theme changes annually, Summits typically focus on showcasing advances, gaps, and challenges in cancer control by reviewing the latest data and evidence-based practices.

More information is available at <https://arcancercoalition.org/arkansas-cancer-summit/>.



Get ready for fun in the sun and a wonderful educational experience! Sign up to attend the **National Cancer Registrar Association's (NCRA)** Annual Educational Conference! Registration is now open!

The NCRA annual conference offers the most continuing education units in one place for ODS' recertification requirements. Don't miss this opportunity to earn your in-person CEUs! NCRA also has an editable [justification letter template](#) to assist you in conveying the importance of your attendance. Click [2025 NCRA Annual Conference Online Registration](#) for more information!



The **North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR)** will host its 2025 Annual Conference in Hartford, CT, June 3-5, 2025.


The theme this year is 90 Year of Excellence: Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future. The NAACCR conference is a great opportunity to learn more about the work of central cancer registries, central cancer registry ODS', and about national standards.

For more information, go to <https://www.naacr2025hartford.com/>



MONTHLY ABTRACTOR TIPS

- Review all 2025 manual updates
 - [2025 NAACCR Implementation Guidelines](#)
 - [Solid Tumor Rules Manual 2025 Update](#)
 - [Standards for Oncology Registry Entry \(STORE\) 2025](#)
 - [SEER Program Coding and Staging Manual 2025](#)



Refer to the 2025 change log, the change log does not replace the rules

Use the consolidated manual updated with a Table of Contents

RULES FOR ARKANSAS CANCER CASE REPORTING

In accordance with Arkansas cancer reporting law, all licensed health care facilities and providers are required to report cancer cases to the ACCR no later than six months after the date of diagnosis of cancer and/or initial treatment of cancer.

All cancer cases that were diagnosed or began initial treatment on or before **August 31, 2024**, should have been reported to ACCR. If you still have cases remaining from this period, report them immediately. Cases must be reported via WebPlus.

| Month | Abstract due to ACCR | Recommended Month Facility conducts Patient Follow-up | Follow-Up and Case Update sent to ACCR |
|--------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| July 2024 | January 2025 | July 2025 | August 1 |
| August 2024 | February 2025 | August 2025 | September 1 |
| September 2024 | March 2025 | September 2025 | October 1 |

FOCUS AREAS

Lung

- Adenocarcinoma; carcinoma
 - Used interchangeably
- Bronchus, is not always equivalent to mainstem bronchus
 - Only apply C340 mainstem when specifically stated in OR report of by a physician
 - When only bronchus, code to lobe where the bronchial tumor is located
- Table 1 of the STM: Coding Primary Site
 - Provides terminology and laterality specific to site terms and code application, e.g.,
 - Base of lung, Bilateral = Lower lobe C343
 - Suprahilar NOS, Bilateral = Lung NOS C349
 - Lingula of lung, Left = Upper lobe C341
- Coding Histology
 - Code the most specific histology or subtype/variant regardless of description as
 - Majority or predominant
 - Minority of tumor
 - A component
- Grade Table 2
 - Grade G4: Undifferentiated, including anaplastic
- AJCC Online Staging
 - The Explanatory Notes section provides several helpful resources on ‘Multiple Tumors’
 - Including Table 36.4 Clinical criteria to categorize a lesion as a separate tumor nodule (intrapulmonary metastasis)

ETC CORNER

Marie & Pierre Curie discovered radiation towards the end of the 19th century, and they were also the first to provide the effective non-surgical cancer treatment– radiation treatment. However, what we call radiation treatment today has come a long way since the early 1900’s. As radiation has evolved over the last century, it's important to reflect on how these great minds helped save thousands of lives. As Oncology Data Specialist professionals, we are tasked with breaking down several components of radiation treatment including energy utilized, method of delivery, and targeted areas of delivery to the patient. Advances in radiation treatment and the evolution of cancer data collection can sometimes make coding these treatments difficult. The STORE manual has evolved since 2018 to include extensive case examples and scenarios in the “CTR Guide to Coding Radiation Therapy Treatment in the STORE”. The [2025 STORE MANUAL](#) Appendix R provides the newest coding guidelines and case examples based on many different scenarios. There are now more case examples than ever before, ranging from the gold standard of radiation treatment per cancer site to nuanced cases with cancer registrar inquiries. In this resource, you will find that many case examples are taken directly from the CAnswer Forum. Unique situations, real cases, and feedback with coding guidance from ACoS are added daily. The CAnswer Forum is free to both certified registrars and students alike; registration is required. These are excellent resources for radiation coding and are available online. I highly recommend reviewing the 2025 STORE Manual and visiting the CAnswer Forum at <https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/help> and register today!

Sincerely,

Melissa Chapman RHIT, ODS-C
Education & Training Coordinator | melissa.chapman@arkansas.gov

ACCR UPDATES

Facility Contact & ODS Information

It is that time of year again! ACCR is updating all facility contact and reporting information. To better serve you and gather the most up-to-date information, ACCR has created a [survey link](#) where you can enter your current facility information. Please gather the following information and complete the survey by March 31, 2025.

- Facility Name (complete for each facility you abstract or report for)
- Type of Facility
- Facility Affiliation, if applicable
- Licensed with Arkansas Department of Health
- Specialty
- Facility Mailing Address
- Cancer Abstractor/ODS name
 - Contractor Agency, if applicable
 - Is abstractor ODS-C
 - Job Title
 - Email Address
 - Phone Number
 - Supervisor Name
 - Title
 - Email Address
- Phone Number
- Facility/Hospital Executive, Manager, or CEO Name
 - Email Address
 - Mailing Address
 - Phone Number
- Reporting Facility ID Assigned by ACCR
- Frequency of reporting to ACCR
- Total cancers diagnosed in:
 - 2023
 - 2024
- Total initial treatment of cancer in:
 - 2023
 - 2024
- Registry software and EMR system
- Number of registry staff
- CoC accreditation

Click the [Survey Link](#) or enter this address into your web browser.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=I95moBGX5E2HJUMaOevK-zjdymR-Xb1OsjMfK2gfLIFUQTgxTU4xMUtDSE9ORjNTTEJKMVpVMkszRC4u>

Don't forget to check out the updated ACCR Required Data Items list and ICD-10 Reportable list for 2025 diagnoses on the ACCR utilities page! Height and Weight are state specific data items and blanks will not pass edits as of January 1, 2025.

ACCR VIRTUAL OFFICE HOUR

We are excited to continue this opportunity and to work on cases in real-time with you! Please dial in with your abstracting, coding, reporting, education, and IT questions. We look forward to hearing from you!



February 2025

Date: February 24, 2025
Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM CST
Platform: Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 271 666 710 138
Passcode: dusU8d

March 2025

Date: March 13, 2025
Time: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM CST
Platform: Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 231 050 380 873
Passcode: zB324m3y

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

In my brief time here at ACCR, I have met so many amazing professionals who are truly dedicated to the cancer registry, cancer research, cancer prevention & treatment professions. When I took on my role as director in January 2022, I had little knowledge or background of cancer reporting laws nor the intricacies of cancer case reporting. I have been humbled to learn how much work and skill goes into every aspect of the cancer registry profession.

I commend each and every cancer reporter, abstractor, and ODS-C. Without you, this would not be possible. The data you send to us lays the foundation for current and future cancer research! Cancer prevention, treatment, and research efforts all depend on the work you perform on a daily basis. While we may not work directly with patients in cancer care, our work can profoundly impact patient treatment and outcomes in years to come.

Thank you for your dedication to this field and for providing us with consistent, accurate, and complete data.

Sincerely,
Lindsay M. Collins, MPA, ODS-C
ACCR Director
Lindsay.Collins@arkansas.gov

Questions?

Check out our updated Frequently Asked Questions on the ADH website!

https://healthy.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/FAQs_about_ACCR.pdf

Need previous issues of ACCR's newsletters or presentations? You can find them on the ADH ACCR website!

<https://healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/data-statistics-registries/arkansas-cancer-registry/>

Need assistance getting set up with cancer case reporting or are you experiencing issues with WebPlus? Contact Clint Lemons at 501-661-2141 or clint.lemons@arkansas.gov.

Need to review previous Casefinding/ACCR Required Data Items lists or ICD-10 Reportable lists? You can find them on the ACCR Utilities page for Arkansas Cancer Reporters.

<https://adhcancer.arkansas.gov/>

For all other questions or for more information on the Arkansas Central Cancer Registry, email us at ADH.ACCR@arkansas.gov. We look forward to hearing from you!



Vital Records & Statistics Branch / Arkansas Central Cancer Registry

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