

# ARKANSAS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

May 2025 Monthly Newsletter



MAY IS  
**MELANOMA  
AND SKIN CANCER**  
AWARENESS MONTH



**BLADDER CANCER**  
M A Y



**GO  
GRAY  
IN MAY**  
For Brain Tumors

National Wear Gray Day is May 27, 2025! Show your support for brain tumor awareness by wearing gray clothing. #GoGrayInMay

## DID YOU KNOW?

In the famous Beatles tune 'Here Comes the Sun', the lyrics 'sun, sun, sun here it comes' repeat throughout the song. It is a classic song, with only a few notes heard, listeners can easily identify and sing or hum along. This song and more, like 'Soak Up the Sun', 'Let the Sunshine In', and 'Walking on Sunshine' are enjoyed by music lovers everywhere, many times while enjoying the sun! As we race into the warmer months, with longer days and exciting events like graduations, special occasions, and sporting activities like baseball, softball and golf, it's the perfect time to embrace the great outdoors and enjoy the 'sun, sun, sun here it comes'!

May also marks Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month, a vital opportunity to spread awareness about these serious conditions. Show your support by wearing, showcasing, posting, and sharing a black ribbon—let's unite in raising awareness and staying sun-safe this season, while listening to fun songs as we enjoy the outdoors all season long!

**20%**

OF AMERICANS  
WILL DEVELOP SKIN  
CANCER

MORE THAN 2  
PEOPLE DIE OF  
SKIN CANCER  
EVERY HOUR



HAVING

**5+**

SUNBURNS  
DOUBLES YOUR  
RISK FOR  
MELANOMA

MELANOMA EARLY  
DETECTION 5-YEAR  
SURVIVAL RATE  
(U.S.)

**99%**



Skin cancer is the most common cancer in America. It is the cancer you can SEE and check yourself for. [THE BIG SEE®](#) is a campaign through The Skin Cancer Foundation that encourages people to check their skin at least once a month. Do you SEE anything New, Changing, or Unusual? Get to know your skin.

- Most common types of Melanomas are:
  - o Superficial Spreading
  - o Nodular
  - o Lentigo Maligna
  - o Acral Lentiginous (Acral)

- Treated most frequently with surgery
  - o Wide Local Excision (WLE) after initial biopsy procedure
  - o MOHS procedure

Join social media with **#SkinCheckChallenge**, **#SkinCancerIsSerious**, and/or **#ThisIsSkinCancer**.

## ACCR EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES

The next installment of the bimonthly ACCR Educational Webinar Series will be available in FLccSC in June 2025.

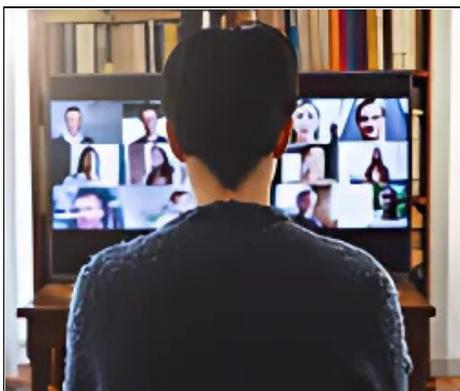
Contact [Melissa.Chapman@arkansas.gov](mailto:Melissa.Chapman@arkansas.gov) with questions or for webinar access.

All 2024 and 2025 ACCR Webinars are approved for 1 Category A CE credit, completely free of charge!



## ACCR VIRTUAL OFFICE HOUR

Need to speak directly to someone at ACCR about a coding, IT, or education related question? Do you have a case that you want ACCR to review with you? ACCR offers the unique opportunity to reach all its staff at once, during its monthly virtual office hour! Please dial in with your questions and ACCR will be happy to assist you.



### June 2025

Date: June 16, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM CST

Platform: Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 298 442 834 629

Passcode: kw9aT28j

Dial in by phone: +1 501-244-3310

Conference ID: 835 907 420#

ACCR will not have a virtual office hour in May 2025. Stay tuned for future dates!

# MONTHLY ABTRACTOR TIPS

## Focus Area: Brain

SSDI Review for Brain and CNS Other (effective 1/1/2024+):

### Brain Molecular Markers:

- Codes **01-23** capture clinically important histologic subtypes identified by molecular markers
- Codes **85 and 86** capture scenarios where this SSDI is not applicable: 85= Not applicable, histology is not within the list provided, 86 = Benign or Borderline tumor
- Code **87** is reserved for those cases where test is ordered, but the results are not in the chart

### Brain Primary Tumor Location

- Differentiates between the Pons and all other subsites of the Brain Stem, where the tumor arose
- Code 1: Pons
- Code 2: Subsite other than Pons
- Blank: Applicable for primary site not equal to C717 or diagnosis year prior to 2024.

### Spotlight: Staging Tidbits

The AJCC Staging Manual, 8th Edition, Chapter 1, "Principles of Cancer Staging," offers comprehensive guidance on applying individual T, N, and M codes, as well as determining the overall stage group, among other critical staging concepts. It is strongly recommended that this manual be reviewed annually to ensure continued familiarity with these guidelines.

- Sentinel lymph node biopsy prior to neoadjuvant therapy for breast cancer is categorized as clinical (**cN**)
- Extension of an involved regional lymph node into a distant structure or organ is categorized as extranodal extension (ENE) and is **NOT** considered distant metastatic disease
- Direct extension of a colon primary into the liver is categorized as **pT4** and **cM0**

Additionally, the American College of Surgeons ([ACS](#)) website offers a series of AJCC Webinars designed to further enhance the education and understanding of cancer registrars regarding staging principles. Currently, the following AJCC 8th Edition Webinars on individual primary sites available are Breast, Colon and Rectum, Lung, Melanoma and Prostate Staging presentations. Check it out!

### Spotlight: Recurrence

**RECURRENCE** is required by the Commission on Cancer (CoC) and SEER (when available). It is the presence of disease after an interval period when no disease was found, or disease was in remission. It can be noted as initial progression, recurrence, or metastatic disease.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recorded once<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Do not update for subsequent occurrences</li></ul></li><li>• Review the MPH and STM to determine subsequent tumors as recurrence or multiple primaries</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local: In primary organ</li><li>• Trocoar: Organ absent, recurs in scar tissue</li><li>• Regional: In adjacent organ or organ's draining lymph nodes</li><li>• Distant: In location beyond regional</li></ul> |
|---|---|

## Lymphoma and Leukemia, Type of First Recurrence

Disease stated to be in remission	Code 00, Patient became disease-free after treatment and has not had a recurrence
Disease recurs or relapses after a statement of remission	Code 59, Distant systemic recurrence of an invasive tumor only

### Spotlight: STORE Manual Updates

The 2025 Store Manual Summary of Changes ‘by page number’ begins on page 2. Please note the PDF version [STORE MANUAL 2025](#) summary of changes by page number begins on page 13. Spend time reviewing these changes!



### HIGHLIGHTS:

**Radiosensitizer Chemotherapy:** Direction regarding NOT coding chemotherapy provided as a radiosensitizer or radioprotectant has been removed

**Chemoembolization:** Added two bullet points of instructions for chemoembolization

**Hospice:** Added instructions for capturing hospice information within Palliative Care procedure codes, including assigning code 7 if hospice was recommended and received but it is unknown what type of care was received

**yc Staging:** Added instructions for registrar requirement to complete yc staging when planned surgery following neoadjuvant therapy was cancelled

### **Surgical Diagnostic and Staging Procedure & Surgical Diagnostic and Staging Procedure at This Facility:**

Added instructions for coding aspirations (as tissue or cytology (cells))

- o Tissue is coded in Surgical Diagnostic and Staging Procedure
- o Cell aspiration coded in Diagnostic Confirmation
- o If negative or microscopically positive margins capture procedure as a Rx-Summ-Surgery code
- o If positive macroscopic margins capture as a Surgical Diagnostic and Staging Procedure

## 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 **November 30, 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
October 2024	April 2025	October 2025	November 1
<b>November 2024</b>	<b>May 2025</b>	<b>November 2025</b>	<b>December 1</b>
December 2024	June 2025	December 2025	January 1

## ETC CORNER

### Making Improvements in Quality Cancer Reporting: ACCR Success Stories

The NCRA Annual Educational Conference is a time to meet, greet, network, learn, and educate each other. Every year there is a wall of “Success Story” posters from Central Registries across North America. The CDC-NPCR (Centers for Disease Control-National Program of Cancer Registrars) “Success Stories” showcase Central Registry achievements towards a specified goal including successful improvements in public health and registry management. The “Success Stories” are broken into five categories: Collaboration, Data & Reporting, Public Health Impact, Registry Operations, and Education & Training. The Arkansas Central Cancer Registry (ACCR) participates each year in the success story submissions. When you walk by the posters in the conference hall at NCRA this year, or view them online on the NCRA Events Portal, I recommend you read how ACCR participated in the improvement of cancer reporting in 2024. Central Cancer Registries play a crucial role in understanding and addressing the nation's cancer burden. Cancer Registrars may not think about how their cases are utilized, and what effects their quality of data may have on the future of cancer care. As the Education and Training Coordinator for the State of Arkansas, it's well known that quality data is ACCR's primary focus. Our bimonthly webinars provide quality education to reporters and students throughout the state. Receiving quality data from Hospitals and Non-hospitals can be challenging for a variety of reasons. One action taken by ACCR to improve quality reporting was to open a monthly Virtual Hour call. This call is open to those who might need guidance with abstracting, submitting cases, death clearance, or other specified requests. I highly encourage our reporters to attend at least one session; your ACCR Team looks forward to meeting with you! We welcome you to pop on the call just to say “hi”, introduce yourself, or feel free to ask questions or request help. ACCR has also initiated one-on-one training for non-hospital reporters to encourage better quality and understanding of ACCR reporting requirements. Additionally, we are working on an update to the 2018 WebPlus training in FLccSC, which we hope to have available early this spring. In the meantime, the current version of this training is still available for viewing under the “Web Plus Users Training” category. For questions or comments please reach out directly to Melissa Chapman at the [Melissa.Chapman@arkansas.gov](mailto:Melissa.Chapman@arkansas.gov).

Sincerely,  
Melissa Chapman, ODS-C, RHIT  
Education & Training Coordinator  
Arkansas Central Cancer Registry

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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### June 2025

- [North American Association of Central Cancer Registries 2025 Annual Conference](#)
  - o June 3-5, 2025, Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT 06103

### August 2025

- [ImmunizeAR's Immunization Summit 2025](#)
  - o August 8, 2025, Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, North Little Rock, AR 72114

## Questions?

Check out our Frequently Asked Questions on the ADH website!

[https://healthy.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/FAQs\\_about\\_ACCR.pdf](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!

[healthyar.info/accr](https://healthyar.info/accr)

Need assistance getting set up with cancer case reporting or are you experiencing issues with WebPlus?

Email [ADH.ACCR@arkansas.gov](mailto:ADH.ACCR@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](mailto:ADH.ACCR@arkansas.gov). We look forward to hearing from you!



### Vital Records & Statistics Branch / Arkansas Central Cancer Registry

Arkansas Department of Health  
4815 W. Markham, Slot 7  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
[healthy.arkansas.gov](https://healthy.arkansas.gov) / 1-800-462-0599