

ARKANSAS CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY

September 2025 Monthly Newsletter



September is
**THYROID
CANCER
AWARENESS
MONTH**



As we exit the third quarter of 2025 and embrace the changing seasons—with cooler temperatures, Friday night football, fall harvests, cozy clothing, and the early stirrings of the holiday season—let us also turn our attention to a time of deeper awareness and compassion.

September is a month of heightened recognition for a range of cancers that affect so many lives, including Childhood Cancer, Prostate, Ovarian, Uterine, Thyroid, and Blood Cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma. It is a time to honor the courage of those battling these diseases, to remember those we've lost, and to support the families and communities impacted.

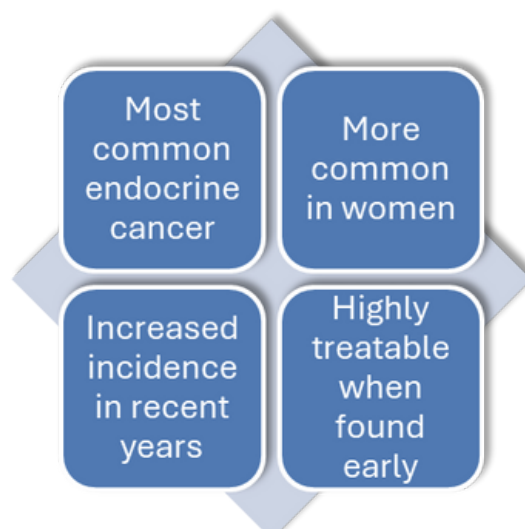
As we look ahead with hope and reflection, may we continue to raise awareness, advocate for improved early detection methods, promote life-saving screenings, and support ongoing research. Above all, let us stand beside those affected—offering care, understanding, and strength every day.

Together, through awareness and action, we can work toward a future where fewer lives are affected by cancer, and more are saved through progress and compassion.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 28th Annual International Thyroid Cancer Survivor's Conference will be held in Houston, Texas as in person or virtual FREE event. The event is hosted by ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc. a non-profit organization raising awareness, promoting early detection and providing support to those affected by thyroid cancer. The dates for this years event are September 26th-28th.

Early detection is key!



MONTHLY ABTRACTOR TIPS

Focus Area: THYROID

Laterality

- Not a paired site
 - Add right or left stated laterality in text

Micropapillary carcinoma

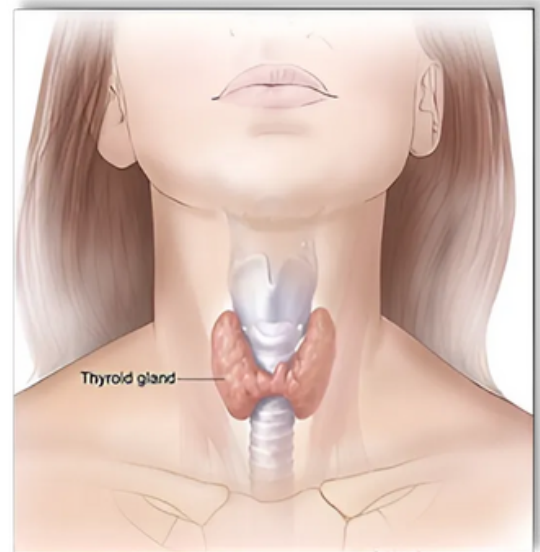
- Micro is a size descriptor, not the histology
 - Apply code 8260 (Papillary Adenocarcinoma)

Histology

- Avoid common coding pitfalls, consult the STR
 - Well differentiated follicular adenoca 8331/3
 - Moderately differentiated follicular adenoca 8332/3
 - Poorly differentiated thyroid carcinoma (PDTC) 8337/3

Grade

- Generic schema is used
 - Carcinoma, undifferentiated 8020/3 = Grade D
 - Carcinoma, anaplastic 8021/3 = Grade D
 - High grade papillary carcinoma, Grade D, per generic grade table 'Description' table



AJCC Staging

The AJCC 8th edition has separate chapters on thyroid cancer dependent on histology. Apply the appropriate chapter for either: **Differentiated and Anaplastic Carcinoma** or **Medullary Carcinoma**. Also note for the Differentiated and Anaplastic chapter, the age of the patient is a factor used when assigning stage group.

Differentiated

Age <55

Age <55

Anaplastic

Age not a factor

Case example: 39 y/o female with Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma, tumor size **1.3cm**, confined to the thyroid, **no lymph nodes** involved, **no metastatic disease**.
T1b = Tumor > 1cm but < 2cm, limited to thyroid
N0 = No evidence of locoregional lymph node mets
M0 = No evidence of distant mets
Group 1, due to age of less than 55 years in combination with T1b (Any T), N0 (Any N) M0

It is also important to note, pathological confirmation of lymph node status is NOT required for staging purposes. Patients with pNX disease classified clinically as cN0 are classified 'cN0/pNX' in the staging tables.

Case example: 62 y/o female with Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma, tumor size **2.4cm**, confined to the thyroid, **no lymph nodes assessed, no metastatic disease**.
T2 = Tumor > 2cm but < 4cm, confined to the thyroid
NX = Nodes cannot be assessed
M0 = No evidence of distant mets
Group 1, due to age of greater than 55 in combination with T2, NX (per stage group table), M0

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 **March 31, 2025**, should have been reported to ACCR. If you still have cases remaining from this period, report them immediately. Cases must be reported via Web Plus.

Month	Abstract due to ACCR	Recommended Month Facility conducts Patient Follow-up	Follow-Up and Case Update sent to ACCR
February 2024	August 2025	February 2026	March 1
March 2025	September 2025	March 2026	April 1
April 2025	October 2025	April 2026	May 1

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

October 2025

- [Arkansas Cancer Registrars Association Annual Meeting](#)
 - October 6-8, 2025, Little Rock, AR
 - See additional details in the 'ETC corner' of this newsletter



ACCR EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES

Topic: 2025 Manual Updates
 Presenter: Janet Raleigh, ODS-C

Date/Time: October 14, 2025 @ 12 pm CST
 Registration via: [FLccSC](#)



This month's presentation is an in-depth review of the 2025 updates. Please reach out to Janet Raleigh, Educational Content Manager, or Melissa Chapman, Education & Training Coordinator, with any questions.

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 virtual office hour! Please dial in with your questions and ACCR will be happy to assist you.

October 2025

Date: October 23, 2025
 Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM CST
 Platform: Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 236 830 283 785 4
 Passcode: E6Yw9mP6

Dial in by phone: +1 501-244-3310
 Conference ID: 844 372 439#

ETC CORNER

Get Your CEIP In-Person Credits at the 2025 ArCRA Annual Conference!

If you're a cancer registrar working toward your ODS certification, you probably know about the new CEIP (Continuing Education In-Person) requirement from NCRA. And if you're looking for a way to meet that requirement without leaving Arkansas, we've got great news for you!

The **Arkansas Cancer Registrars Association (ArCRA)** is hosting its **Annual Conference** from **October 6–8, 2025**, in **North Little Rock**, and it's the perfect chance to earn your in-person CEIP credits—plus connect with your peers, gain fresh insights, and grow professionally.

Dates: October 6–8, 2025

Location: North Little Rock Chamber of Commerce

Format: Hybrid (virtual options available)

CEIP Note: To earn CEIP credits, **you must attend in person** or obtain approval from the National Cancer Registrars Association (NCRA) to attend virtually with a group of 5 or more. Virtual groups must be in the same room and have an approved NCRA application prior to the event.

This year's theme is: **“Better Together – Let's grow, learn, and inspire – together.”**

And what better way to live that out than gathering with colleagues for education, networking, and shared inspiration?



As a special bonus, ArCRA is once again offering the **“Abstracting 101 Workshop”** on October 8, 2025.

This session is ideal for: **Arkansas students, New and active cancer registrars, and ACCR case reporters**

Whether you're just starting out or looking to sharpen your skills, this workshop is a must-attend!

Meeting the CEIP Requirement: What You Need to Know

Beginning **January 1, 2025**, the **NCRA** requires all ODS-certified professionals to complete **at least 8 CE credits of in-person education** every four years.

Here's the breakdown:

- CEIP credits are included in the standard **20 CE credits**.
- They can be earned **across two 2-year CE cycles**.
- You can split them across **multiple in-person meetings**—it doesn't have to be all at once.
- You **don't** need to attend NCRA's national conference to fulfill the CEIP requirement.
- CEIP applies to those in the **U.S. and Canada** (not U.S. territories or other international locations).

To qualify, the in-person event must be **NCRA Program Recognition-approved**—and yes, **ArCRA's conference qualifies!**

Head over to www.Arcra.org to:

- View the full conference agenda
- Learn more about speakers and sessions
- Register for both the main conference and the Abstracting 101 Workshop

Spots fill quickly, especially for the in-person sessions, so don't wait!



Let's Grow—Together

Whether you're a seasoned registrar or just starting your journey, this year's ArCRA Conference is your chance to invest in your career, meet the new CEIP requirements, and connect with an incredible community of professionals who are passionate about cancer data and making a difference.

We can't wait to see you there—in person!

Sincerely,

Melissa Chapman ODS-C, RHIT
Education & Training Coordinator

QUESTIONS?

Check out our 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!

healthyar.info/accr

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

Email 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. We look forward to hearing from you!



Vital Records & Statistics Branch / Arkansas Central Cancer Registry

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