



WISCONSIN CANCER REPORTING SYSTEM NEWSLETTER



WINTER 2018 EDITION

WCRS Staff Changes and Vacancies

ROBERT BORCHERS' RETIREMENT

Bob began working for the Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System (WCRS) in March of 1997 and has been a dedicated and innovative registry database manager for those 20 years. Bob created and conducted the cancer registry linkages to the annual death file, disease indices, duplicate case identification, research requests, etc., and also created the registry management tools system, CRS_FAC, which tracks the data in its various stages producing reports for data quality, compliance, facility tracking and other purposes. He also created an address standardization tool for the registry, the Feedback Summary Reports (which monitor facility-level timeliness and completeness), a DSPS physician license database (used by WCRS and other bureaus in DHS), NPI physician database and our facility-level database. He also used USPS national data to create bi-monthly standardized datasets not only for Wisconsin, but for the entire U.S., and provides that data to the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries for use nationally.

Bob has done so much to leave a great legacy. Bob will be sorely missed; his dedication to public health, years of data knowledge, and his sense of humor. Please bear with us as we try to fill his shoes in 2018.

ROBIN MALICKI RESIGNATION

Robin Malicki resigned from her role as the Health Analytics Section - population registries supervisor in late November to take a position at the Department of Administration.

WHO DO YOU CONTACT IN THE INTERIM?

Laura Stephenson is the interim program director and will also respond to data manager questions and inquiries. Please contact Laura for any issue or question you would have directed to Robert or Robin.

RESEARCH TECHNICIAN POSITION VACANCY

As you may recall, Lu Ann Hahn, Research Technician for the Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System staff retired from her position in December of 2016. Currently, the position that was held by LuAnn is still vacant, though it is under review by DHS Human Resources. Cancer Registry staff will continue to be responsible for communications from our respective roles. Please contact any of the WCRS staff with questions.

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2018 CASE SUBMISSION

As has been communicated and recently re-iterated by national standard setters, there will be many changes to cancer reporting for cancer cases diagnosed on or after January 1, 2018. Per the most recent NAACCR Implementation webinar held December 18, 2017, software for 2018 case submission will not be available until at least June 2018, with a more likely release date in the 3rd quarter (July - September).

Because of the multitude of changes, final updates will not be available for, potentially, months.

WCRS has not yet received definitive information from NPCR/CDC on Abstract Plus and Web Plus availability. SEER Summary Stage 2018 will not be released until March as well. Following the release of SEER Summary Stage, edit metafiles will need to be created by vendors and central registries.

Given the uncertainty of release dates, the multiple updates and WCRS staff shortage (three positions are currently vacant), WCRS will **NOT** be accepting submission of cases for DIAGNOSIS YEAR 2018 for the foreseeable future. Timeliness requirements for case submission will be suspended for all 2018 cases.

- WCRS will revisit the submission of 2018 cases with labs, individual physician offices, clinics and non-COC facilities in March.

WCRS asks that all facilities use this opportunity to complete all 2017 cases, in addition to any backlogs while we have the current software with Version 16 layout and edits. All cases diagnosed prior to 2018 should be completed and submitted to WCRS prior to your facility's conversion to the 2018 software.

WCRS will continue to update its web page as more information becomes available on finalized software schedules, deadlines, edit programs, required data item lists, new staging manuals, and other materials associated with the multitude of changes for 2018.

Changes for 2018 will include staging according to the 8th Edition of the AJCC, discontinuation of Site-Specific Factors, and implementation of Site-Specific Data Items and SEER Summary Stage 2018. Wisconsin WILL NOT require the collection of new Extent of Disease (Primary Tumor, Regional Nodes, Mets) fields. Additionally, manuals are being updated to include new histology codes (ICD-O-3), changes in multiple primary/histology rules (MP/H) to the Solid Tumor Rules, updates to the Hematopoietic Database and Manual, and use of the new STORE manual by hospitals that are Commission on Cancer-accredited.

If you use vendor software, you can abstract cases for diagnosis year 2018 in your software but you SHOULD NOT complete and submit the cases to WCRS until your software has been upgraded to NAACCR v18 and the cases have passed v18 edits. (This was reviewed and discussed in detail on a recent NAACCR webinar on implementation of NAACCR v18: <https://www.naacr.org/2018-implementation/>.)



2018 Case submission does NOT affect the submission of cases for Early Case Capture of Pediatric cases. Please continue to submit ECC cases within the 30 day required timeline.

DATA ITEM UPDATE REMINDER

The **good** news is - there are no data items or changes to the data submission layout for 2017 diagnosed cases!

Please refer to the current 2016/2017 WCRS Coding manual and required data item list (located under the Other Coding Resources tab) on the WCRS website.



- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wcrs/reporterinfo/training.htm>



EDITS AND SOFTWARE UPDATES

The current metafile is Version 16E. WCRS will not be upgrading Web Plus or Abstract Plus until software is available, June-September, 2018.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS—BIG CHANGES ON THE NOT TOO DISTANT HORIZON

AJCC 8TH EDITION

- CoC-accredited facilities will use the AJCC 8th Edition starting with 1/1/2018 diagnoses.
- WCRS will no longer require AJCC TNM stage to be reported from non CoC-accredited facilities.
- WCRS will not hold AJCC 8th Edition specific trainings in 2018 since AJCC and NAACCR are already providing extensive free training online.
 - <https://www.naacr.org>
 - <https://cancerstaging.org>
- WCRS will continue to announce all AJCC sponsored trainings and host NAACCR sponsored training; we will still be your ‘first responders’ for all AJCC 8th edition questions, following current protocols.

WCRS will update its edit metafiles to include all required AJCC edits for 8th edition and will be applying those edits based on type of facility as required. There are still many questions about this new change in state reporting and WCRS will work with NPCR to clarify issues such as: “When a CoC facility reports for a nonCoC facility, will those cases require TNM stage?” and more...

ICD-O-3 HISTOLOGY REVISIONS

Histology changes affect the following primary sites: CNS, breast, head and neck, urinary, male genital, soft tissue/ bone, GYN & lung. The changes include new histology codes, changes to behavior, preferred names and alternate names.

For Example, thymoma will no longer need to be stated as “malignant” to be coded to behavior /3; or previous nonreportable GI terms will now be reportable with behavior /2.

Many of these changes will include specific instructions to properly assign the ICD-O code. Edits will also be created/ updated to ensure site and histology are coded correctly.

SITE SPECIFIC DATA ITEMS (SSDI)

SSDIs are new and revised prognostic data items that were historically collected under the collaborative stage site-specific factor schema. There are 154 new SSDIs. Instead of the standard field length of 3 characters, these new fields will range from 1 to 6 characters in length, to allow for better data coding and representation.

Site Specific Data Items (SSDI) is similar to the Site Specific Factors (SSF) collected with Collaborative Stage. These data items are specific to certain site/histology combinations. For example, the SSDI’s for breast will be used to collect information such as estrogen receptor status, progesterone receptor status, Her2 status, Nottingham grade, and additional information related to primary tumors of the breast. The information collected in these data items are specific to breast.

SOLID TUMOR RULES

The Solid Tumor Rules (previously known as the MP/H Rules) are being updated for 2018 cases. The updated rules will reflect changes to ICD-O-3 based on updates of the WHO Classification of Tumors (Blue Books), AJCC 8th Edition Staging Manual, and will incorporate clarifications that have been made to current rules in recent years.



These new rules will determine multiple primaries and histologies for head and neck, colon, lung, breast, kidney, ureter/renal pelvis/bladder, benign brain and malignant brain. Solid tumor rules will include expanded histology tables, more notes and examples and tables for nonreportable neoplasms. Melanoma and “other sites” groups cannot be updated until the corresponding WHO Classification 4th edition is published.

There will be no change on how to use the rules (hierarchical - find the first applicable scenario and STOP).

➡ **Note: They will only be released in text format.**

SEER HEMATOPOIETIC AND LYMPHOID NEOPLASM DATABASE

Updates to the SEER database will be based on clarifications received from the AJCC 8th Edition hematologic chapter authors and the revise WHO Hematopoietic book.

SEER SUMMARY STAGE 2018

Beginning with cases diagnosed in 2018 registrars will assign summary stage based on Summary Stage 2018. This is the first update to the Summary Stage system since 2001. SEER Summary Stage 2018 is designed to reflect changes in the AJCC 8th Edition.

- May consider prognostic factors for some sites
- May consider histology for some sites
- This is considered a major upgrade as there has not been an update to this stage schema since 2001. (There have been three changes to AJCC TNM staging since 2001).

WCRS stage training in 2018 will focus solely on SEER Summary Stage 2018. Please know that WCRS will still assist and act as liaison, provide guidance for AJCC coding.



For those of you who have heard about a requirement for SEER EOD, WCRS will not be requiring the SEER Extent of Disease (EOD) stage schema next year.

WCRS 2018 PREPARATIONS

Some of the steps that WCRS will be taking to prepare for the 2018 changes that are specific to our facilities include: Updating WCRS edit metafiles for CoC and non-CoC facilities and distribute to vendors, Updating Abstract Plus, Web Plus and GenEDITS for facility use.

The v18 edits metafile will reflect updates to ICD-O-3, stage (AJCC 8th, EOD 2018, Summary Stage 2018, Site Specific Data Items [replacing SSF's]).

Edits and edit related tables will have to be updated to accommodate changes to chapter site/histologies and new values in AJCC 8th Edition. Edits and edit related tables will have to be updated to accommodate new histologies and changes to histology coding rules coming out of ICD-O-3 Implementation Work Group. Current TNM Edits will be reviewed to see if they can be adapted to AJCC 8th Edition. Edits will be reviewed comparing T, N, M, and stage values with new SSDIs.

In addition, the WCRS Coding Manual and associated references will be updated and incorporated on our web site. Lastly, training presentations will be developed for 2018.



AJCC SUPPLEMENTS RELEASED FOR THE AJCC CANCER STAGING MANUAL, EIGHTH EDITION

The American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) released the *AJCC Cancer Staging Form Supplement* as well as the *AJCC Histology and Topography Code Supplement* to the *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, Eighth Edition*.

The Cancer Staging Form Supplement can be used to record T,N,M categories, prognostic stage groups, histologic grade and other vital information. These staging forms may be used by individuals without permission from the ACS or the publisher. This document may be printed or made into PDF forms.

The AJCC Histology and Topography Code Supplement includes the complete list of histology codes and topography codes for each of the 108 distinct staging systems published in the *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, Eighth Edition*.

CoC facilities required to continue reporting AJCC stage can obtain more detailed information and access the forms on the AJCC website. <http://cancerstaging.org>

WCRS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

WCRS will continue to modify the content of our trainings to incorporate the 2018 changes and reflect the needs of our reporters. We will again conduct four to six regional trainings (time/place TBD). The focus will be on:

- SEER Summary Stage 2018
- New Solid Tumor rules
- New Hematopoietic Database rules
- ICD-O3 changes

The NAACCR 2017-2018 Training Series is hosted by WCRS in the Madison office on the First Thursday of each month. Recordings are available post-live session if you are a WCRA member.

To provide additional resources to reporters, short one-topic “How-to” videos will be uploaded to the WCRS website. Possible subjects for the “how to” videos include:

- Navigating through the SEER hematopoietic database web site
- How to use SEER Rx
- How to install Abstract Plus
- How to log on to Abstract Plus
- WISH Demo
- More to come dependent on 2018 changes and transitions

WCRS will continue to accept and review all training request to understand how we may best modify the location, frequency and content of the regional trainings in order to address your reporting needs. WCRS will continue to strive to achieve our goal of meeting reporters needs in a productive and valuable format.

SPECIAL SOC CODE FOR MEDICAL REGISTRARS

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) created a new distinct detailed occupation code of "Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars" in the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

The new detailed occupation code reflects the increase use of data to improve medical treatment and care and the critical role cancer registrars play in collecting that data. The new code will also ensure that the statistics on the cancer registry workforce will be more accurate, providing a clearer understanding of the current and future workforce needs; correct salary information will help recruit and retain qualified individuals; and skill-appropriate personnel will be hired to fill cancer registrar positions at both the central and hospital levels.



Information on the new SOC location and details:

29-9021: Health Information Technologists and Medical Registrars

"Apply knowledge of healthcare and information systems to assist in the design, development, and continued modification and analysis of computerized healthcare systems. Abstract, collect, and analyze treatment and follow-up information of patients. May educate staff and assist in problem solving to promote the implementation of the healthcare information system. May design, develop, test, and implement databases with complete history, diagnosis, treatment, and health status to help monitor diseases."

EARLY CASE CAPTURE SUBMISSIONS



Reminder: All pediatric and young adult cancers are required to be reported to WCRS within 30 days of diagnosis (subset of data - no stage or treatment). WCRS started its 4th year of this 5 year grant on 10/1/17.

There are noticeable improvements in the timeliness for the 2017 diagnosis year; 80% of 2017 cases were received within 60 days of diagnosis, compared to 40% for the 2016 diagnosis year for the Spring 2017 submission. The Fall 2016 submission only contained 5% of cases submitted within 60 days of diagnosis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

EDUCATION AND TRAINING SUPPORT

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DATA SUBMISSIONS AND DCO SUPPORT

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TECHNICAL SUPPORT, QA

(And Bob/Robin questions for now)

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THANK YOU

The Wisconsin Cancer Reporting System sincerely thanks all reporters for your continued patience and dedication to timely and complete cancer reporting. We look forward to a steady, reporting relationship in 2018, during what may be a very challenging transition year.

