

2020 NPCR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CENTRAL CANCER REGISTRY SUCCESS STORY

STORY TOPIC: Data Quality Improvement

STORY CATEGORY: Registry Operations

STORY TITLE: District of Columbia: Improving and Maintaining High Data Quality Utilizing Bi-monthly Hospital Data Submission

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SUMMARY

To continuously improve and maintain high quality cancer data, the District of Columbia Cancer Registry (DCCR) revised the hospital data submission criteria to focus on quality data. The criteria for inclusion are eligible cases diagnosed in 2019 and beyond (beginning with February 2020 submission). A total of 25 randomly selected cases of various sites are reviewed from each bi-monthly submission. The results identified consistent errors in patient abstracts, such as:

- Text input per DCCR text requirements (NAACCR approved abbreviations)
- Improper Primary site/Histology assignment
- Address at Diagnosis documentation
- Class of Case
- Laterality
- Race/Spanish Origin
- Tumor Size (clinical/pathological/summary)

CHALLENGE

The biggest challenge was getting registry/hospital staff to standardize data collection. Prior data quality review revealed multiple issues in data abstraction. Some of the items identified were text input, primary site and laterality. Beginning in 2018, the cancer registry community adopted significant changes to coding guidelines and manuals (AJCC 8TH ED, STORE, Solid Tumor Rules, ICD-O-3, SSDI's, Grade, and Radiation data fields) which posed additional challenges to the reporting facilities, such as:

- Eliminating old coding processes/habits,
- Educational opportunities for new coding rule changes,
- Understaffed or outsourced registries under time pressure,
- High productivity requirements, or
- Frequent facility re-assignments of abstracting CTRs were linked to several coding and text field data inconsistencies (text not following DCCR's text field requirements, frequent copy/pasting of physician notes, text not properly used to back corresponding data fields.)

SOLUTION

DCCR revised the Hospital Data Submission Form to facilitate and assist in improving cancer data quality. Each submission file has 25 randomly selected cases for visual review. The abstract is assessed with a focus on major data items that may affect the overall quality. Discrepancies are recorded and provided to the reporting facilities with supporting resources, i.e., STORE manual. DCCR is available to provide additional support if facilities have questions, concerns, or suggestions. DCCR provides educational opportunities with NAACCR monthly webinars, facility requested conferences and annual educational conference.

DCCR Cancer Registry Data Submission Report Card

Facility Name: Sample Hospital		Facility ID: Sample		Diagnosis Year(s): 2019 +		Submission Year(s): 2019-2020	
Reporting Criteria	Data Submission Months						Yearly Total by Criteria
	February	April	June	August	October	December	
Data is 100% error-free	1	1	1	1	1	1	6/6
Data received within 6 months of first contact/diagnosis	1	1	1	1	1	1	6/6
No duplicate cases identified in submission	1	1	1	1	1	1	6/6
Data submission meets frequency requirements	0	1	1	1	1	1	5/6
Data passes 98% visual edits	0	0	0	0	0	1	1/6
DCCR text requirement utilization	0	0	1	1	1	1	4/6
Monthly Submission Points	3	4	5	5	5	6	28/36 (78%)
Monthly Submission Grade	D	C	B	B	B	A	
Total Annual Grade							C

Criteria Not Met = 0
Criteria Met = 1

Facilities with an overall annual grade of "A" will be recognized by the DCCR.

Grading Scale

6/6 points = A
5/6 points = B
4/6 points = C
3/6 points = D
< 3/6 points = F

RESULTS

There are eight reporting facilities in the District of Columbia. The QA review was performed on seven of these facilities. The most common error identified was "Text documentation. 43% of the reporting facilities followed DCCR text requirements, while 57% of facilities did not follow the DCCR text requirements. Other errors identified were:

- Address @ Diagnosis
- Race/Spanish Origin
- Primary site/Histology
- Laterality
- Use of NAACCR approved abbreviations

SUSTAINING SUCCESS

To sustain success, DCCR will continue to monitor the submission data and provide feedback and support when needed to reporting facilities. DCCR will focus on the areas that need addressing by providing additional educational opportunities, scheduled web-based conferences with individual facilities and the annual educational conference.

REGISTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

202-442-9216, <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/cancer-registry-0>