

# OREGON

Oregon State Cancer Registry; Kirsten Aird, Manager

## Using Cancer Registry Data for Strategic Planning

# NATIONAL PROGRAM OF CANCER REGISTRIES SUCCESS STORY

**SUMMARY:** The Oregon State Cancer Registry (OSCaR) is a program within the Oregon Public Health Division, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Section (HPCDP) that works alongside the Oregon Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (OCCCP) to address cancer risk factors, improve screening rates and community-clinical linkages for at-risk populations and improve the health and quality of life for cancer survivors in Oregon. HPCDP is an integrated section that engages with strategic partners around the state on policy, systems, and environmental approaches to reduce chronic disease, including cancer, and the burden it places on people, communities and the economy. HPCDP's Five-year Strategic Plan (2018-2023) was developed using a data-driven and evidence-based prioritization process and focuses on the four key risk factors associated with cancer: tobacco use, alcohol use, obesity and physical inactivity. HPCDP used cancer registry data to inform the priorities and key strategies outlined in the plan. The past year, OSCaR expanded its data reporting system. Expansion includes reporting cancers by associated risk factors, adding new cancer risk factor to web-based data table reports and developing an interactive cancer data query system.

**CHALLENGES:** Lifestyle behavioral risk factors like tobacco use, alcohol use, obesity and physical inactivity are associated with certain cancers. Certain types of human papillomavirus (HPV) are also associated with several cancers, which contribute to preventable illnesses and death in Oregon. OSCaR reports Oregon cancer prevalence data tables every year but has not reported cancer by associated risks (i.e. tobacco use) and did not have this information readily available for the public.

**SOLUTION:** The Oregon State Cancer Registry (OSCaR) conducted a literature review on risk-related cancers and found the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) document "*Predefined SEER\*Stat Variables for calculating the Number of Associated Cancers for Selected Risk Factors*". According to the CDC, there are 12 tobacco-related cancers, 6 alcohol-related cancers, 13 obesity-related cancers, and 3 physical inactivity-related cancers. This document also includes cancers related to HPV and identified the histology and cancer site codes to include for each of the risk factors.

In addition to the risk-related web tables, OSCaR's epidemiologist and research analysts are working to move the Oregon Public Health Division from static presentations of data on the internet (tables and published reports) to an interactive data query software for providing data to the public.

**RESULTS:** Using the CDC document, OSCaR developed two new risk-related cancers tables. One of the new data tables provides a list of cancers related to tobacco use, alcohol use, obesity and physical inactivity. We also indicated which of the cancer sites in our annual incidence and mortality web tables are related to the above risk factors.

Additionally, the cancer registry created an HPV-related cancers table which includes HPV-related cancers incidence and mortality rates. These new data tables help HPCDP track cancer trends and monitor HPV vaccination rates in Oregon.

Furthermore, OSCaR's epidemiologist is developing an interactive data query system using the Microsoft Power BI software, making cancer registry data more accessible to the public. The data query system will also include Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data on cancer prevalence and screening rates. The public will be able to query cancer rates by race, ethnicity and county. This helps healthcare providers and public health practitioners to prioritize evidence-based strategies for prevention and identify priority populations for cancer screenings and health promotion efforts.

**SUSTAINING SUCCESS:** The mission of the Oregon State Cancer Registry is to help reduce the burden of cancer in the State of Oregon by maintaining a cancer database with accuracy and precision, and making this information available to researchers, public health professionals and other healthcare organizations for cancer prevention and control efforts.

Many cancers are preventable and are caused by lifestyle behaviors such as tobacco use, alcohol use, obesity and physical inactivity. HPCDP staff use OSCaR data to track cancer trends, providing valuable information for monitoring success and implementation of strategies included in the HPCDP strategic plan.

The improvement in cancer data reporting will help HPCDP in both strategic decision-making and the dissemination of data to strategic statewide partners to inform policy, system and environmental approaches that support cancer prevention, survivorship, screening and immunization in Oregon.

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