

2023 NPCR NEBRASKA SUCCESS STORY

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“Knowledge Fridays” Meets Nebraska Education Plan:
Elevating Cancer Reporting Proficiency

National Program of Cancer Registries SUCCESS STORY

SUMMARY

The Nebraska Cancer Registry's collaboration with Westat and funding through various means highlights its commitment to maintaining a high standard of data collection and guidance. To empower cancer registrars with updated knowledge, the Nebraska Cancer Registry introduced “Knowledge Friday,” an innovative question and answer (Q&A) platform overseen by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. This program focuses on understanding and assessing the current knowledge base of cancer registrars in Nebraska's reporting facilities and ensuring they remain informed about cancer abstract coding updates and enhancing their adaptability to evolving reporting guidelines.

CHALLENGE

- Keeping up to date with the myriad of changes across reporting resources.
- Ensuring accurate reporting due to evolving standards like NAACCR, AJCC, ICD-O-3.2, STORE Manual and other cancer registrars' guidelines.
- Navigating the overwhelming number of lengthy educational webinars and training courses available.
- The difficulty registrars face with allocating time for continuous learning because of competing priorities.

SOLUTION

- Initiation of “Knowledge Friday,” using Microsoft Forms, offering weekly Q&A sessions taking less than 5 minutes for engagement.
- Concentration on key reporting resources including NAACCR guidelines, Commission on Cancer STORE manual, AJCC Cancer staging.
- Immediate feedback provided to participants, enabling real-time understanding.

RESULTS

- A significant improvement in registrars' awareness and proficiency levels, evidenced by weekly quiz outcomes.
- Tailored sessions for Commission on Cancer (CoC) and non-CoC facilities ensuring specific and focused learning and maximizing effectiveness.
- Enhanced adaptability to changing guidelines and reporting standards.
- Active engagement from a range of institutions, yielding genuine feedback and invigorating the initiative.
- The feedback from “Knowledge Friday” was instrumental in informing the Needs Assessment phase of the Nebraska Education Plan.

Needs Assessment Scores		
	CoC Hospitals	Non-CoC Hospitals
Number of Participants	18	29
Reportability	n/a	60 %
HIPAA	n/a	93 %
Casefinding	n/a	44 %
Grade	87 %	n/a
Radiation	96 %	n/a
Solid Tumor Rules	82 %	n/a
Histology	61 %	n/a
Staging	85 %	n/a
Reportability	84 %	n/a
Coding	83 %	n/a

- CoC hospitals exhibited proficiency in radiation (96%) and Solid Tumor Rules (82%).
- Non-CoC hospitals showcased an impressive understanding of HIPAA (93%), with identified areas for enhancement in casefinding (44%).

SUSTAINING SUCCESS

- Plans are underway to expand the initiative, focusing on non-hospital facility education to ensure broader reach and impact.
- Continuous evaluation and improvement strategies are incorporated, anchored on feedback, ensuring the program remains updated and effective.

STORY QUOTE

“Really enjoy the Friday learning sessions. Very helpful. Thank you for doing this.”
– Beth Craig, Methodist Fremont Health

REGISTRY CONTACT

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