

# Overcoming Data Quality Issues for Call for Data Submission 2024

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## SUMMARY

The Oregon State Cancer Registry (OSCaR) experienced an unusually high number of errors in the 2023 data submission due to unknown registry software issues. OSCaR created a plan to remedy this situation for the 2024 data submission.

## CHALLENGE

Staff in CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) discovered data submission errors after the 2023 submission. OSCaR's registry software did not catch these errors, even though the software was up to date on the required data submission edit sets. Unfortunately, OSCaR did not have access to edit software outside of the database vendor, like GenEDITS Plus, to run files before submission. The registry did not have a way to find these errors. Registry staff worked for several weeks after the submission deadline to clear these edits manually without the ability to verify that edits had been cleared.

## SOLUTION

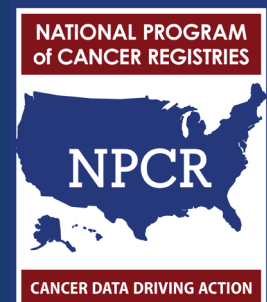
In the spring of 2024, OSCaR began developing a new software system at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), where OSCaR plans to migrate the registry data after completing the 2024 data submission. The new university's information technology team first built a server for the software programs critical for data submission and had this server available to use early in the process. This included NPCR's GenEDITS Plus software. Using a secure managed file transfer (MFT) portal, the registry manager transferred the large data submission files between the institutions to run them through GenEDITS Plus software.

## RESULTS

Access to a secure MFT site for file transfer and GenEDITS Plus software allowed the quality assurance staff to clear all of the errors before submission. When each GenEDITS Plus report was complete, a new file was extracted from the registry database and transferred to OHSU to be run through GenEDITS Plus software. This took several rounds. The process was time-consuming, but OSCaR was able to create error-free submission files for NPCR.

## CONCLUSION

OSCaR experienced many software issues in 2024, but the registry made a plan to fix the errors to ensure a successful submission. For the 2025 data submission, all of OSCaR's data will be migrated to OHSU, so the registry will not have to spend valuable time moving files across institutions and servers to process the submission. The new database software and IT support at OHSU will also improve the data quality processes for better outcomes in the next annual data submission.



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