

# 2022 NPCR ALABAMA SUCCESS STORY

Alabama Statewide Cancer Registry; Justin George

*Improving Address at Diagnosis Information to Improve Data Quality and to Assist in Making More Informed Decisions*

## National Program of Cancer Registries SUCCESS STORY

### SUMMARY

The Alabama State Cancer Registry (ASCR) utilized the Accurint/LexisNexis product to identify missing address at diagnosis information as well as to identify the correct street addresses for cases reported with only a post office box for the address. Without this process, cases with missing addresses could only be included in statewide calculations; however, these cases can now be included in calculations at the proper county, zip code, and Census Tract level. By correcting post office boxes to street addresses, ASCR can geocode the data far more accurately. This in turn helps our partners in making informed decisions based on ASCR data.

### CHALLENGE

ASCR had access to LexisNexis at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic, LexisNexis could not offer any training to ASCR staff. ASCR staff had to figure out which data elements were offered. Due to overlapping addresses, identifying the most current address was a challenge.

### SOLUTION

The Director of Cancer Epidemiology and the Staff Epidemiologist worked together to develop a system to account for training. A Microsoft Access Database was designed to import the address information into the ASCR system.

### RESULTS

With access to LexisNexis, 1,520 cases with only a post office box address were linked and updated. For missing addresses, 477 addresses were found and updated within the ASCR system.

### SUSTAINING SUCCESS

NPCR is identifying ways to improve data quality by working directly with LexisNexis. NPCR requested several state registries, including ASCR, to provide more details on their work with LexisNexis. ASCR provided NPCR with a list of proposed core data elements that would enrich and obtain patient information necessary to improve data quality. Sustainability of success will be dependent on whether NPCR can meet an agreement with LexisNexis on the requested data elements. In addition to post office boxes, ASCR looks at other fields to improve data quality.

### REGISTRY CONTACT INFORMATION

334-206-7035  
[Alabama Statewide Cancer Registry Website](#)



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