

**DATA STANDARDS AND QUALITY CONTROL
MEMORANDUM
DSQC #2002-06**

CATEGORY: **GUIDELINE REVISION (Replaces DSQC #2001-02 & 2001-05)**
SUBJECT: **Race/Ethnicity Code Documentation**
EFFECTIVE: **July 23, 2002**

Race and ethnicity are two very important data items to epidemiologists who investigate cancer. The National Cancer Institute has recognized the need to better explain the cancer burden in racial/ethnic minorities and is concerned with research on the full diversity of the U.S. population. The CCR recognizes the importance of these data items and relies on quality data to assist researchers in identifying and reducing disparities due to race and ethnicity.

1. Race code documentation must be supported by text documentation for those cases where there is conflicting information. Outlined below are examples of when text documentation would be required.

NOTE: These examples are not intended to demonstrate all possible scenarios.

Scenarios Demonstrating Conflicting Race Information:

A. Name:	June Hashimoto	D. Name:	Moon Smith
Race:	White	Race:	Japanese
Birthplace:	Unknown	Birthplace:	California
Marital Status:	Single	Marital Status:	Married
B. Name:	Bob Nguyen	E. Name:	Maria Tran
Race:	White	Race:	White
Birthplace:	Mexico	Birthplace:	Spain
		Marital Status:	Separated
C. Name:	Robert Jackson	F. Name:	Carlos Johnson
Race:	Mexican	Race:	Black
Birthplace:	California	Ethnicity:	Hispanic
		Birthplace:	California

G. Name: Arlene Thompson
Race: Filipino
Birthplace: California
Marital Status: Divorced

2. A text statement indicating patient's race, i.e., "Pt is Japanese", is required for conflicting types of cases (see #1). This information must be entered in either the physical exam or remarks text fields.
3. Cases with conflicting information that lack supporting text documentation will be returned as queries and counted as discrepancies.
4. While race code documentation is only required when there is conflicting information, CCR recognizes the importance of race code documentation and **strongly** recommends that registrars continue to document race in the physical exam or remarks fields. Remember to search beyond the facesheet for the most definitive race and/or ethnicity information.
5. In version 1.2.3 of C/NExT, the Remarks screen is now accessible near the demographic information in addition to where it was originally located for registrar's convenience in documenting race information.