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**Educational Opportunities**

**Last Call!**

The four educational modules posted on the CCR web site will be removed January 31, 2011. Consisting of two CEU hours each, the site specific modules are on breast, ovary, lymphoma, and bladder. Registrars needing continuing education hours to complete the certification cycle ending January 31, 2011, should allow 3-5 working days to receive the CEU certificate.

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**About This Issue**

Katheryne Vance, BA, CTR

A look back at the previous twelve months of goals and accomplishments is among the many end-of-the-year activities. 2010 was a banner year in the cancer registry field! Thanks to all involved, the transition and change met our expectations! It would be nice to say that we have closed the book on 2010 data changes however; we know that there is more work to be done. With your help, we will continue to discover and fine tune those areas of cancer reporting that need further clarifying instructions.

An example of clarifications is in the 2010 Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasms data changes. To this end, the article *5 Steps to Using the Hematopoietic Database* is a Cliff's Notes look at how to approach using the Hematopoietic Database. Additionally, Daixin Yin and Brenda Giddings from the CCR's Cancer Surveillance and Research Unit, and Dee LeTendre from the Data Collection Unit give us *Reasons to Improve the Collection of Occupation and Industry Data*.

2011 brings a new CCR research project and an opportunity for all cancer registrars to collect detailed treatment data on chronic myelogenous leukemia, breast, and colorectal cancer cases. Janet Bates, M.D., M.P.H, Chief Cancer Surveillance Section, and Cynthia Creech, Data Collection Unit Chief, provide a review of this exciting project in *National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) Project "Enhancing Cancer Registry Data Systems for Comparative Effectiveness Research."*

In this season of reflection, renewal, and anticipation, the CCR thanks you for your continued excellence in cancer reporting and wishes you and your loved ones health, happiness, and peace.

**Comparative Effectiveness Research**

Janet Bates, MD, MPH  
Cynthia Creech, CTR

In August of 2010, the California Cancer Registry was notified that it was one of 13 registries selected for participation in the *National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) Project "Enhancing Cancer Registry Data Systems for Comparative Effectiveness Research."* This project is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for Patient Centered Health

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**Research (also called Comparative Effectiveness Research).**

The purpose of this project is to establish Specialized Cancer Registries by enhancing data collected through a subset of NPCR central cancer registries for comparative effectiveness research (CER). Activities include additional data collection, training, methodological development, and expansion of electronic reporting with the goal of developing sustainable methods to enhance cancer registry data. Outcomes will include a dataset to be used for CER and other research.

Data from these funded activities will be made available for researchers through an established National Center for Health Statistics Research Data Center. In addition to California, awards were granted to Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Texas.

[Click here to review the entire article.](#)

### **Improving Occupation & Industry Data Research**

Daixin Yin, MS  
Brenda Giddings, MA  
Dee LeTendre, RHIT, CTR

It is well documented that occupational exposures are risk factors for some cancers. In the U.S., it is estimated that approximately 20,000 cancer deaths and 40,000 new cases of cancer each year are attributable to occupation.

Several research studies on occupational cancers have already been carried out using registry data. Central cancer registries are shown to be a valuable data source for research studies aiming to estimate cancer burden by occupation and industry, identify industries and occupations at high risk for cancer, generate hypotheses about occupational risk factors for further research, and guide etiologic and intervention research and practices.

Before occupation and industry data can be used in research, the text occupation and industry data from medical records (or from death certificates) have to be coded into standardized three-digit codes. This coding process is done in the central registry through a computer program developed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

[Click here to review the entire article.](#)

### **5 Steps to Using the Hematopoietic Database**

Katheryne Vance, BA, CTR

A wealth of information can be found in the Hematopoietic Database (HematoDB) and the 2010 Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Case Reportability and Coding Manual. One issue that has been identified is that there is so much information that it can be overwhelming to know where to start! All of this information is not easy to navigate. To assist registrars in using the electronic data base and the manual, the abstracting process has been broken down into five steps.

Step 1: Find the provisional ICD-O-3 histology code and confirm the histology and/or site combination using the Hematopoietic Database

Step 2: Review the 10 Reportability Instructions in the 2010 Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Manual

Step 3: Utilize the correct Multiple Primary (MP) rules in the 2010 Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Manual to determine how to report the case

Step 4: Utilize the correct Primary Site and Histology (PH) rules in the 2010 Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Manual

Step 5: Code the grade using the Grade Rules in the Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Neoplasm Manual To illustrate these steps, let's take a look at SEER SINQ 20100053:

[Click here to review the entire article.](#)

## Chirps!

Chirps are observations, comments, and notations that are being passed along with the goal that registrars will apply these chirps to their abstracting styles. Think of these as friendly reminders or chirps.

[Click here to view Chirps.](#)



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