# DATE FLAG GUIDE

Dates transmitted between facility registries and central registries changed to improve the interoperability or communication of cancer registry data with other electronic record systems.

Depending on the registry software, the date flag codes may be applied in the background and may not be apparent to the registrar. Since only actual known dates are entered in interoperable date items, the date flags are used to explain the reason the date field is blank.

Registry software may display dates in the traditional manner or in the interoperable format. Traditional dates are displayed in MMDDCCYY form, with 99 representing unknown day or month portions, and 99999999 representing a completely unknown date. In traditional form, some dates also permit 88888888 or 00000000 for special meaning.

Interoperable dates are displayed in CCYYMMDD form with the unknown portions of the date filled with blank spaces. If a date is entirely blank, an associated date flag is used to explain the missing date. **An allowable date must contain the year.**

Consult your software vendor for specific data entry instructions.

| Description | Traditional Date | Interoperable Date | Date Flag |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Full date known** | MMDDCCYY | CCYYMMDD | Blank |
| **Month and year known** | MM99CCYY | CCYYMMbb | Blank |
| **Year only known** | 9999CCYY | CCYYbbbb | Blank |
| **Unknown date** | 99999999 | bbbbbbbb | 10, 11, 12, or 15* |
| b= blank | | | |

\* Allowable date flag values

## GENERATED DATE FLAG FIELDS

The following date flag fields are generated by the system and do not require data entry.

- Date Most Definitive Surgery Flag
- Date Systemic Treatment Flag
- Summ Systemic Surgery Sequence Flag
- Date of Initial Treatment Flag

## DATE FLAG FIELDS

### Date of Birth Flag

| Code | Description |
|---|---|
| 12 | Date of Birth cannot be determined |

| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |
|-------|-------------------------------|

## Date of First Contact Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 12 | Date of first contact cannot be determined |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Inpatient Admission and Date of Inpatient Discharge Flags

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | No information, unknown if an inpatient |
| 11 | Patient was never an inpatient |
| 12 | Patient was inpatient, but the date is unknown |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Diagnosis Flag

*The date of diagnosis flag must always be blank. Date of Diagnosis will always have a full or partial date recorded. At a minimum, the year of diagnosis is required for all cases.*

## Date of Conclusive Diagnosis Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown if based on ambiguous terminology |
| 11 | Date cannot be determined, diagnosed originally or within 60 days using unambiguous terminology |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined, diagnosed using ambiguous terminology, conclusively diagnosed > 60 days later |
| 15 | Diagnosed using ambiguous terminology, no conclusive diagnosis followed |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Multiple Tumors Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 11 | Multiple tumors not collected for this site/histology |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined, but known to be multiple tumors |
| 15 | Single tumor |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Diagnostic or Staging Surgical Procedures Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether a surgical diagnostic or staging procedure was performed |
| 11 | No surgical diagnostic or staging procedure was performed |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for surgical diagnostic or staging performed |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Surgery Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether any procedure performed |
| 11 | No procedure planned or performed |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for procedure performed |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date Radiation Therapy Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether radiation therapy was given |
| 11 | No radiation therapy planned or given |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for radiation therapy received during first course |
| 15 | Radiation therapy is planned; start date is not yet available |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date Chemotherapy Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether any chemotherapy was given |
| 11 | No chemotherapy planned or given |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for chemotherapy received during first course |
| 15 | Chemotherapy is planned; start date is not yet available |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Hormone Therapy Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether any hormone therapy was given |
| 11 | No hormone therapy planned or given |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for hormone therapy received during first course |
| 15 | Hormone therapy is planned; start date is not yet available |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Immunotherapy (BRM) Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether immunotherapy was given |
| 11 | No immunotherapy planned or given |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for immunotherapy received during first course |
| 15 | Immunotherapy is planned; start date is not yet available |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Transplant/Endocrine Procedure Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether transplant/endocrine therapy was given |
| 11 | No transplant/endocrine therapy planned or given |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for transplant/endocrine therapy received during first course |
| 15 | Transplant/endocrine therapy is planned; start date is not yet available |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Other Therapy Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 10 | Unknown whether other therapy was given |
| 11 | No other therapy planned or given |
| 12 | Date cannot be determined for other therapy received during first course |
| 15 | Other therapy is planned; start date is not yet available |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of Last Contact Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 12 | Date cannot be determined |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |

## Date of First Recurrence Flag

| Code | Description |
|------|-------------|
| 12 | Date cannot be determined |
| Blank | Full or partial date recorded |