



Commission
on Cancer

Flash



A Monthly News Update from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons

February 2007

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March Survey Savvy Workshops **Cancelled**

The Commission on Cancer (CoC) has cancelled the Survey Savvy Workshops for Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Facilities and Pediatric Programs scheduled for March 22 and 23, respectively. Should you have any questions, please contact Asa Carter at acarter@facs.org.

Last Call for CLP Award Nominations

The Cancer Liaison Physician (CLP) Awards Program serves to recognize outstanding performers who go above and beyond the regular scope of CLP duties and who have made a positive impact on their cancer program and/or community.

A Nomination Form is posted online at <http://www.facs.org/cancer/coc/liaison.html>. Nominations must include a brief description of how the CLP met the criteria for which he/she was nominated and that validates the CLP as a physician champion within the cancer program. If you are eligible to nominate and you know a deserving CLP, we encourage you to submit a nomination by March 1 to Carolyn Jones, Cancer Liaison Program Coordinator, at cjones@facs.org or (312)202-5009, or by regular mail: 633 N. Saint Clair St., Chicago, IL 60611.

June 1 Deadline to Submit NCDB Corrections is Approaching

CoC -approved cancer programs that have NCDB data corrections to return are reminded that the deadline for submission is drawing near. To receive a Compliance (1) rating for Standard 3.7, facilities must submit their 2005 case corrections to the NCDB by June 1, 2007. We strongly encourage programs to act now and avoid the last-minute rush. Please direct questions to Nancy Etzold via e-mail at NCDB@facs.org or by phone at (312)202-5339.

CoC Hosting Forum in Conjunction with NCRA Annual Conference

For those attending the National Cancer Registrars Association (NCRA) Annual Conference, the CoC is hosting a forum for cancer registrars from CoC-approved cancer programs on Sunday, April 22nd from 4:30 to 6:30pm. One registrar from each CoC-approved cancer program is invited to attend and participate in a dialogue and exchange of information and ideas in support of your role. An e-mail was sent to registrars from CoC-approved programs on Monday, February 26, along with a registration form. For more information about the CoC Forum, please contact Connie Bura at cbura@facs.org.

New Member Organization Representatives

The following new Member Organization Representatives were appointed to membership on the Commission in January 2007.

Association of Cancer Executives: Linda W. Ferris, PhD; The DeCesaris Cancer Institute, Anne Arundel Medical Center; Annapolis, MD

Society of Nuclear Medicine: Leonie Gordon, MD, ChB; Medical University of South Carolina; Charleston, SC

Welcome New State Chairs

Please join the CoC in welcoming the following new State Chairs:

Larry Dillon, MD, FACS, Memorial Health System, Colorado Springs, CO

Neal Wilkinson, MD, FACS, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA

Ned Carp, MD, FACS, Lankenau Hospital, Wynnewood, PA

Now Available! 9 New Staging Presentations

The [Online Education Center](#) for Cancer Programs now offers nine new one-hour cancer staging courses. Presented by well-known physicians and registrars, the programs provide detailed, site-specific discussion of the appropriate use of staging schema.

- For physicians: Breast and Colorectal Cancer Staging
- For registry personnel: Breast, Colorectal, and Lymphoma Staging

Plus 4 **FREE** programs present Collaborative Staging for Breast, Colorectal, Lung, and Prostate Cancers.

In addition, the Online Education Center offers Medical Radiation Physics for Surgeons. (This program is specifically intended for surgeons seeking to fulfill the requirement for 4 CME in Medical Radiation Physics as required by the ACS Stereotactic Breast Biopsy Accreditation Program.)

Learn from the comfort of your own home or office. Sessions can be viewed at your own pace, you may start and stop whenever you choose, and you may view them as often as you'd like. Continuing education credit is available.

The Online Education Center is located online at <http://www.facs.org/cancer/webcast/index.html>.

And Don't Forget...

Individuals from CoC-Approved Cancer Programs receive a 25% discount on the cost of presentations. (Discount does not apply to the Medical Radiation Physics series.)

Role of the CLP Webconferences for 2007

Need role clarification? Have questions about the Cancer Liaison Physician's (CLP) responsibilities? Join us for the next Web conference to better understand the activities of the CLP. Facilitated by a CoC State Chair, this is your opportunity to ask questions.

Schedule:

Wednesday, April 4, 2007; 9:00 am to 10:00 am CST
Thursday, June 14, 2007; 10:00 am to 11:00 am CST
Wednesday, August 8, 2007; 11:00 am to 12:00 pm CST
Tuesday, October 2, 2007; 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm CST
Thursday, December 6, 2007; 9:00 am to 10:00 am CST

Audience Participation Instructions:

Audio Dial-in: 1-877-218-2987; Passcode 9227382#
Meeting URL: <http://web.meetme.net/r.aspx?p=2&a=70541692008057>

If you are not able to use the above URL, then follow these steps:

1. Go to <http://web.meetme.net/audience>
2. Enter the Meeting Key: 70541692008057

These sessions last approximately 50 minutes and require Internet and telephone access. Registration is NOT necessary. Visit our Web site at <http://www.facs.org/cancer/coc/liaison.html> for further instructions.

Can't participate the day of the live Web conference? Log on to the CoC's Online Education Center at <http://www.facs.org/cancer/webcast/index.html> and review a one-hour recorded session of this very same talk. This presentation is free of charge and includes synchronized audio, slides, and a written transcript. Presenter Aaron D. Bleznak, MD, FACS, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Cancer Liaison, provides information on the CoC's activities and resources and strategies for CLPs to be effective in their role.

For questions, please contact Carolyn Jones at (312)202-5183 or cjones@facs.org.

SAR: Completing Standards 3.1 and 7.2

When completing the Survey Application Record (SAR) for Standard 7.2: Cancer Registry Staff Education, it is important to keep in mind that educational activities for all cancer registry staff members must be documented in this section (not just that for CTR's). When review of the SAR occurs either by the surveyor or Approvals staff, a comparison is made between the number of staff listed in the Standard 3.1 section of the SAR and the staff listed in the Standard 7.2 section. These numbers must match in order for Compliance or Commendation to be awarded. If the total number of staff listed in Standard 3.1 is more than the total number of staff in Standard 7.2, this may result in a deficiency.

Share, Develop, and Discuss Comprehensive Cancer Control Resources on CancerPlan.Org

[CancerPlan.org](http://www.cancerplan.org) is a Web site developed for Comprehensive Cancer Control (CCC) professionals to share resources and tools. This resource is a product of collaboration between the American Cancer Society, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Cancer Institute. These organizations are part of a larger collaboration called the National Partners for Comprehensive Cancer Control, which includes the CoC.

CancerPlan.org offers various features to aid in the development and implementation of Comprehensive Cancer Control plans for states, tribes and territories. Features of the Web site include materials related to cancer control planning, implementation and evaluation, access to specific coalitions' cancer plans and resources, an interactive message board, and the ability to post your own CCC materials for display. Most features are available to the public. Registration is needed in order to gain full access to all features on CancerPlan.org.

Log on to <http://www.cancerplan.org>, review the content and special features, access your state's cancer plan, and become a registered user! Your input and suggestions are encouraged. Please send all e-mails to cancerplan@cancer.org.

2007 Multiple Primary and Histology Rules: Effective for Cases

Diagnosed After 12/31/06

The *2007 Multiple Primary and Histology Coding Rules* standardize the process for determining multiple primaries and complex histologies. These rules replace all previous multiple primary and histology rules and are effective for cases diagnosed January 1, 2007 and are not to be used to abstract cases diagnosed on or before December 31, 2006. The *2007 Multiple Primary and Histology Coding Rules* contain site-specific rules for lung, breast, colon, melanoma of the skin, head and neck, kidney, renal pelvis/ureter/bladder, and malignant brain. A separate set of general and specific rules are applicable for other sites.

The *2007 Multiple Primary and Histology Coding Rules* do not apply to hematopoietic primaries (lymphoma and leukemia M9590-9989), Kaposi sarcoma (M9140) of any site, or to the reportable benign or borderline intracranial or CNS tumors. Use the tables in Appendix A of FORDS to decide whether differing histologies represent one or more primaries. The *2007 Multiple Primary and Histology Coding Rules* may be downloaded from the [SEER Web site](#).

The following fields have been added to *FORDS: Revised 2007* to accommodate the implementation of the *2007 Multiple Primary and Histology Coding Rules*:

- Multiplicity Counter
- Date of Multiple Tumors
- Multiple Tumors Reported as One Primary

The following two new items are to be used with cancers initially diagnosed with ambiguous terminology:

- Ambiguous Terminology Diagnosis
- Date of Conclusive Diagnosis

Visit Upcoming Exhibits

The CoC and the AJCC will be exhibiting at the following meetings in March:

Society of Surgical Oncology (SSO)

March 15–18; Marriott Wardman Park Hotel; Washington, DC

Stop by the CoC booth (#616) and the AJCC booth (#614) to speak with Andrew Stewart or Donna Gress.

Association of Community Cancer Centers (ACCC)

March 28–31; Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel; Baltimore, MD

Stop by the CoC booth (#206) to speak with Asa Carter.

NAACCR Training Webinars

The North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) offers a continuing series of site-specific Web seminars (Webinars) for cancer data collectors. Quizzes and didactic exercises are completed and answers with rationale are given. Each Webinar includes a question and answer session.

Remaining Webinars (below) have been approved by the NCRA for 4 continuing education (CE) hours.

March 8, 2007: Abstracting Colon and Rectum Cancer Incidence and Treatment Data

May 10, 2007: Abstracting Prostate Cancer Incidence and Treatment Data

June 14, 2007: Abstracting Lung Cancer Incidence and Treatment Data

September 13, 2007: Abstracting Breast Cancer Incidence and Treatment Data

For more information on times and cost or to register for an individual Webinar, go to the NAACCR Web site, <http://www.naacccr.org>, and scroll down to education and training.

Please contact Shannon Vann, svann@naaccr.org, or Jim Hofferkamp, jhofferkamp@naaccr.org, with

any questions you may have about these training opportunities.

UICC 2008 World Cancer Congress

The International Union against Cancer (UICC) has launched the official Web site for its 2008 World Cancer Congress, scheduled for August 27–31 2008, in Geneva, Switzerland, at <http://www.uicc-congress08.org>. Preliminary information about the congress program, registration, exhibition, sponsorship, and scholarships is available.

Spotlight on CoC Member Organization: Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology (CSSO)

The Canadian Society of Surgical Oncology (CSSO) has been a member organization of CoC since 1995. The current representative is Noelle Davis, MD with the British Columbia Cancer Agency in Vancouver, Canada.

Oncologists of all disciplines collectively formed the Canadian Oncology Society in 1976. The mission of the CSSO is to facilitate communication between surgeons whose primary interest lies in the field of oncology; to encourage the formation of surgical oncology training programs in surgical departments in Canadian universities; to promote the optimum treatment of the patient with cancer through a multi-disciplinary treatment approach; to cooperate with other organizations, including the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC), CAGS, and Canadian Oncology Societies (COS) in activities designed to achieve these objectives; to foster the development of education in cancer for both graduate, undergraduate and continuing medical education; and, to encourage the development of research in oncologic surgery.

The society has continued to grow in number and scope and has achieved its goal of providing a forum for surgical oncologists of all surgical disciplines to get together once a year for the purpose of collegiality and the opportunity to present basic and clinical research papers of common interest. There are now three centers (McGill, Toronto, and Calgary) actively training future surgical oncologists for Canada as well as international institutions. The CSSO remains a vital member of the Canadian Oncology Society, aiming to best serve patients with cancer as part of the interdisciplinary oncology team for many years to come.

We invite you to learn more about CSSO and its institutes and programs by visiting its Web site at <http://www.cos.ca/csso>.

To Subscribe to Flash

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To Submit Information

CoC Flash will accept submissions received by the third week of each month. However, the CoC reserves the right to decide whether or not the materials are appropriate for inclusion. Information for *CoC Flash* should be timely, newsworthy, brief, and of use and interest to the constituents of the Commission, which include cancer registrars, liaison physicians, cancer committee chairs, and other cancer-oriented health care professionals. To submit material, send it to CoC@facs.org.

Mission

The Commission on Cancer is a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, prevention, research, education, and the monitoring of comprehensive quality care. *CoC Flash* is a monthly news service for constituents of the CoC provided by the Commission and the Cancer Programs of the American College of Surgeons.

For all the latest information on CoC activities, news, and events, visit our Web site at <http://www.facs.org/cancer/index.html>.



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