

## What is NAACCR?

Established in 1987, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, Inc. (NAACCR), is a collaborative umbrella organization for cancer registries, governmental agencies, professional organizations, and private groups in North America interested in enhancing the quality and use of cancer registry data. All state and provincial central cancer registries in the United States and Canada are members.

## Standards for Cancer Registries

Users of cancer information must be assured that case definitions, coding practices, and categorizations of raw data are standardized. This enables useful and meaningful compilation of case-specific information and meaningful comparison of data across different registries. NAACCR maintains consensus on cancer registration standards among the many standard setters in the United States and Canada, including the American College of Surgeons, the National Cancer Institute, and the Canadian Cancer Registry. Today nearly all registries throughout the United States and Canada have adopted the NAACCR consensus standards. Standards are updated annually and published and posted to the NAACCR website. Implementation guidelines also accompany the updates.

## What does NAACCR do?

- 1) It establishes and maintains a consensus on standards for cancer registration.
- 2) It trains and educates cancer registry professionals in cancer registry operations and cancer surveillance.
- 3) It certifies registries that achieve a standard of high quality for producing an incidence rate.
- 4) It aggregates annual data from population-based registries throughout the U.S. and Canada.
- 5) It promotes the use of cancer registry data in surveillance, cancer control, and population-based research.

## What is NAACCR's Mission?

The North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, Inc. (NAACCR), is a professional organization that develops and promotes uniform data standards for cancer registration; provides education and training; certifies population-based registries; aggregates and publishes data from central cancer registries; and promotes the use of cancer surveillance data and systems for cancer control and epidemiologic research, public health programs, and patient care to reduce the burden of cancer in North America.

## NAACCR Training

### Webinar Series

A webinar (web seminar) is a live interactive web-based training session. The visual and audio components are through an internet connection. The NAACCR training program includes:

- Cancer Registry and Surveillance Webinar Series
  - Site-specific presentations that include anatomical information needed to code and abstract the cases; how to determine the number of primary tumors; how to code topography and histology; how to code the collaborative staging data items; and treatments and how to code them
  - Presentations on specific registry operations
  - Cancer epidemiology and research topics
  - Recorded versions of each webinar
- CTR Exam Readiness Webinar Series
  - Topics from CTR exam content outline
  - A timed practice test in the multiple choice question format
  - Presented twice a year prior to the CTR exam

### NAACCR Annual Conference

Cancer registry professionals, including researchers and surveillance experts, meet to discuss current challenges and opportunities in cancer registration and surveillance. One- and two-day workshops are presented before and after the conference on topics of interest to the NAACCR membership.

### In-person Training

NAACCR presents in-person institutes, workshops, and other classes designed to meet the educational needs of cancer registry professionals. The courses that follow are a sample of NAACCR in-person training opportunities.

- NAACCR Customized Training Program—a blend of in-person and web-based training for registry personnel. Topics may include but are not limited to ICD-0-3 coding, multiple primary rules, collaborative staging, and identifying and coding cancer treatment
- NAACCR Toolkit Workshop—technical tools for data use and epidemiologic research
- NAACCR Cancer Surveillance Institutes—information, skills, and tools to conduct cancer surveillance and to address public health problems, questions, and issues

### Mentor Fellowship Program

Mentor fellowships are available for tailor-made, one-on-one training on registry operations. This program is supported by a contract with the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

### Process Improvement Program

NAACCR supports state-specific programs to enhance data quality through improved collaboration and more effective communication between the central registry and local cancer registrars and reporters. This program is supported by a contract with the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

## Research Program

### Epidemiologic Reports

Annually, NAACCR compiles a bibliography of all research studies, reports, manuscripts, and monographs that have been conducted using the NAACCR incidence data file, developed from the submissions of member registries.

### Cancer Incidence Statistics

Cancer reporting is mandated through state or provincial laws. NAACCR registries from each state or province voluntarily submit their non-identified data annually for evaluation and publication to NAACCR. After NAACCR receives the data, an editorial board compiles the data for publication in Cancer in North America (CINA). An online interactive query system, CINA+ Online, is released to the public so that statistics and descriptive reports can be generated from the data.

### Data Analysis Tools

Data Analysis Tools are developed and released to assist with surveillance analyses. These include: the Great Circle Distance Calculator, NHIA v2 Algorithm, NAPIIA Algorithm, Poverty and Census Tract Linkage Program, and the Record Uniqueness Program.

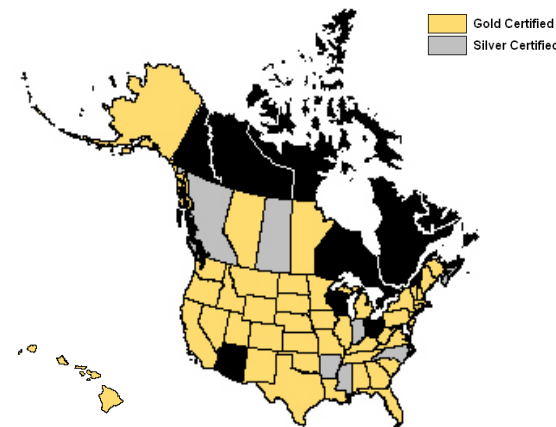
### Researcher Information on Accessing Data from U.S. and Canadian Registries

The most current Registry Data Access Information Spreadsheet serves as a clearinghouse of information for researchers on accessing individual member registries' data, contact information, and capacity for data availability for various types of research protocols and topics.

## Registry Certification

In 1997, NAACCR instituted a program that annually reviews member registries for their ability to produce complete, accurate, and timely incidence data. The registry certification program then recognizes those registries meeting the highest standards of incidence data quality with Gold or Silver recognition certificates for each data year.

Gold and Silver Level Certification Status of NAACCR US and Canadian Cancer Registries for 2005 Data



The source of the data is from the NAACCR Call for Data submissions as of December 2007. Cancer incidence registries are supported by multiple sources. North American registries are included in annual updates of CINA after evaluation that NAACCR high quality standards for incidence statistics have been met. In the U.S., they participate in the NCI-SEER or the CDC-NPCR Program or both. In Canada, all cancer registries are part of the Canadian Cancer Registry.

## Contacts

### For more information

**Maria J. Schymura, PhD**

President

New York State Cancer Registry  
Corning Twr., Rm. 536, Empire State Plz.  
Albany, NY 12237

Telephone: (518) 474-2255  
Fax: (518) 473-6789

mjs08@health.state.ny.us

**Betsy A. Kohler, MPH, CTR**

Executive Director

2121 West White Oaks Drive  
Springfield, IL 62704

Telephone: (217) 698-0800 Ext. 2  
Fax: (217) 698-0188

bkohler@naaccr.org

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The North American  
Association of Central  
Cancer Registries, Inc.

2121 West White Oaks Drive  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Telephone: (217) 698-0800

Fax: (217) 698-0188

[www.naacr.org](http://www.naacr.org)