

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN (2011-2016)
NAACCR PROPOSED PRIORITY AREAS, MAJOR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Priority Area 1: Strategic Alliances

Goal 1: Strengthen relationships with Sponsoring Member Organizations and existing partners, while establishing new alliances with key organizations to promote the NAACCR mission.

Objective 1: Cultivate productive working relationships with Sponsoring Member Organizations by facilitating open communications and purposeful actions.

Objective 2: Enhance existing relationships and build new strategic alliances that benefit cancer registries and support the NAACCR mission.

Priority Area 2: Standardization and Registry Development

Goal 1: Prepare for the ideal cancer surveillance system of the future – a system that is more timely and adaptable to change.

Objective 1: Explore how cancer surveillance systems will interface with electronic health records and continue to assess semantic interoperability issues.

Objective 2: Stay engaged and remain current with national/international efforts regarding electronic health records and enhance efforts to include cancer in the “meaningful use” case for public health reporting.

Goal 2: Provide consensus standards and best practices for the collection and processing of cancer and patient information.

Objective 1: Ensure the maintenance of standards volumes and implementation guidelines that are consensus-based, reflect a comprehensive vetting process, and conform to interoperable content and transmission standards.

Objective 2: Develop standards/best practices for incorporating information from administrative and other data sources into the central cancer registry database to improve completeness and enhance registry data.

Objective 3: Develop methods to simplify the death clearance process and make it more efficient and cost-effective.

Objective 4: Facilitate automation of record consolidation by developing general principles and consolidation guidelines.

Objective 5: Update white papers on confidentiality to assure confidentiality guidelines and standards reflect current best practice recommendations and emerging issues relevant to registries.

Goal 3: Facilitate sharing of technical resources and tools among NAACCR member organizations.

Objective 1: Provide opportunities for mentorship in cancer registry operations to strengthen cancer registries and their personnel throughout North America.

Objective 2: Provide a venue and act as a clearinghouse for sharing open source software products, SAS or other programs, algorithms, tools, and/or templates to make products more widely available and minimize duplicative efforts.

Objective 3: Meet the geographic information needs of the NAACCR membership, including monitoring geographically-related data items, assessing data from the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey, and developing software tools and educational and training materials that will enhance the ability of NAACCR members to analyze spatial patterns of cancer.

Goal 4: Increase the value and relevancy of central cancer registries to the cancer control community, clinicians, researchers and the public.

Objective 1: Maintain and systematically evaluate updates to the existing certification process for population-based registries with a focus on using certification to help drive data quality, timeliness, and completeness.

Objective 2: Improve the timeliness of registry data by requesting incidence data submission at 12 months after the end of the diagnosis year.

Objective 3: Establish “fitness for use” guidelines to improve data quality/completeness for specific purposes such as cancer control, survival, outcomes evaluation, comparative effectiveness research, and geospatial analysis.

Objective 4: Foster increased collaboration between Central Cancer Registries (CCRs), reporting facilities, and local tumor registrar associations by identifying ways in which CCRs can be of service to reporting facilities.

Objective 5: Identify the hallmarks of registries with high quality/complete/timely data and develop best practice guidelines based on identified measures.

Objective 6: Develop a software tool for use by central cancer registries that will generate comprehensive data assessment reports that registries can use to periodically evaluate the quality and completeness of their data.

Priority Area 3: Data Use & Research

Goal 1: Develop efficient, centralized processes to improve access to North American population-based cancer registry data for cancer linkages, research and surveillance.

Objective 1: Promote the use of quality, and timely registry data by enhancing the annual Call for Data and the various NAACCR Cancer in North America (CINA) data products.

Objective 2: Develop a voluntary process to combine limited data from multiple registries to facilitate record linkage research.

Objective 3: Facilitate the development and availability of state-specific relative survival data.

Objective 4: Maintain and enhance tools to inform researchers about state and province-specific research experience, interests, and processes to initiate research.

Objective 5: Increase accessibility to NAACCR's Cancer in North America (CINA) products by periodically evaluating data access policies and processes.

Objective 6: Strengthen NAACCR's internal capacity to support research activities.

Priority Area 4: Communication & Policy

Goal 1: Serve as the voice for NAACCR members on key issues involving central cancer registries.

Objective 1: Use modern methods such as internet-based technologies to capture and share member views, opinions and perspectives on important registry issues.

Objective 2: Develop position papers and policy statements, as appropriate, that support registries, cancer surveillance and the NAACCR mission.

Objective 3: Serve as a united voice for policy issues and position statements that promote NAACCR's mission or benefit central cancer registries.

Goal 2: Promote the sharing of expertise, knowledge, procedures, and best practices among NAACCR members to ensure efficiency and reduce redundancy of effort.

Objective 1: Develop a resource on the NAACCR website where members may post items that may be of value to other NAACCR members.

Objective 2: Develop an area on the NAACCR website where members may ask other members for guidance with particular issues or suggest a problem for collaborative solution efforts.

Objective 3: Move NAACCR's use of web-based and technology-driven communication systems forward to improve information sharing, and promote adoption of best practices.

Priority Area 5: Professional Development

Goal 1: Partner with other professional organizations to address recruitment and retention issues and delineate NAACCR's role in the national retention and recruitment effort.

Objective 1: Develop and implement strategies to enhance career opportunities for personnel in central registries such as epidemiologists, operations specialists, statisticians, CTR's and information technologists.

Objective 2: Support collaborative approaches to make career opportunities in central cancer registries more attractive to individuals with skill sets and expertise to build and maintain the cancer registries of the future.

Goal 2: Develop a comprehensive multidisciplinary training program that provides cross-training and ensures that professional personnel in NAACCR member organizations possess the requisite skill sets required to excel in the rapidly changing cancer surveillance environment.

Objective 1: Continue to provide educational venues to assist registry personnel in scientific, operational, technological, management, and data use issues.

Objective 2: Assist registries in the development of IT skill sets, including database management, information security, and health information exchange/transfer, knowledge of cancer reporting requirements, reporting sources, file formats, coding schemas, and business needs.

Objective 3: Create a comprehensive training program including core competencies in the areas of leadership, management, registry operations, epidemiology/statistics, IT, and data security to prepare members for management positions and grow NAACCR leaders.

Plan implementation of the SMP will be lead by the Board by determining benchmarks for success, delegating responsibility for specific objectives, monitoring progress, initiating evaluation procedures and assuring stakeholder feedback.