#### **NAACCR Cancer Informatics Symposium**

## Moving Towards the Vision: Integrating the Cancer Registry into Clinical Research

Joyce C. Niland, Ph.D. Chair, Division of Information Sciences City of Hope National Medical Center

### The Registry Profession of the Future: No More Dinosaurs\*

- "Given the changes we are experiencing in medicine, the threats to the viability of the registry profession, and the potential opportunities for the future, the characteristics of successful cancer registrars most likely will include:
  - flexibility, adaptability, ability to be proactive, assertiveness,
  - willingness to learn new things
  - willingness to collaborate and work in partnerships
  - and an entrepreneurial outlook."

\*D.S. Miller, MD, MPH, Journal of Registry Management, 26:2, 1999

#### **Outline:**

#### City of Hope National Medical Center

- IAIMS at COH
- Cancer Registry
- Clinical Trials Data
- Outcomes Research

#### Integrating the Registry into Clinical Research

- Analysis of Data Flow
- Re-engineering of Workflow

#### Future Plans

#### City of Hope National Medical Center

 Began as 2 tents in the desert as a TB sanatorium in 1913

- Established as a hospital, moved to cancer emphasis
   ~ 1950s
- Now designated by NCI as a Comprehensive Cancer Center





### **City of Hope National Medical Center**

- State-of-the-art care to patients with cancer & other life-threatening diseases
  - ♦ 200 beds, 110 MDs
  - 2700 cancer patients/year
- First of 5 endowed Beckman Research Institutes in the nation
  - Leading edge research into causes, prevention, and cure of such diseases
  - 154 research scientists
  - \$45 million in grants





#### **Division of Information Sciences Organizational Chart**



**3 Operational Systems** for Cancer Patient Data at COH

#### Cancer Registry: CNext

#### Clinical Trials: BITS

Outcomes Research: NCCN

**Ultimate Goals for Integrated Information Systems** 

- Capture highest quality data one time at the source of origin
- Share data electronically as appropriate and as needed
- Create information out of data in near real time, with quality control "up front"
- Apply tools to create knowledge out of the information

#### **Challenges in Data Integration**

 Operational systems were created to meet different functional needs of an institution

 Clinical research systems are developed independently over time ("silo" approach)

- Systems, rules, processes, and vocabularies for data collection vary
- Standards for patient data collection are needed

 Semantic/conceptual barriers pose substantial challenges to database interconnectivity
 Leads to the requirement for "metadata"



# State Developed Cancer Registry Software System

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## **Biostatistics Information Tracking System**

### **Clinical Trials at City of Hope**

Approximately 350 open trials at City of Hope
 Over 150 treatment trials open to accrual

#### Sponsorship of protocols:

- ~1/3 National Cooperative Groups
- ~1/3 Pharmaceutical Sponsors
- ~1/3 Intramural Trials
- Developed centralized in-house data repository / data collection application in 1989:
  - BITS: Biostatistics Information Tracking System



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#### AUTOLOGOUS BMT DATA COLLECTION FORM: Hodgkin's Disease & Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Missing value codes for fill-in blanks: -8=N/A and -9=missing or unknown Please do not use missing value codes in date fields.

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## "Son of BITS" \*

### \*<u>Caution:</u> speak slowly & enunciate *very* clearly

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### **Enhancements to BITS II**

Migrating from AREV to MS SQL Server 7.0

 Web-browser application for direct data entry from local or remote sites
 Allow direct data entry from multiple sites

Developing additional electronic interfaces
 IRB database system, HLA data, cytogenetics

 Re-engineering of data collection to include Cancer Registry and outcomes staff Internet-based Data System:

The NCCN Outcomes Research Database

#### National Cancer Center Network (NCCN)



#### NCCN Outcomes Research Data System

- Alliance of 20 national cancer centers
- Experts developed evidence-based clinical guidelines

#### Sample Page from the NCCN Breast Cancer Guidelines

#### Breast Cance(Invasive)



#### VERSION 1.1999 PRACTICE GUIDELINES



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#### NCCN Outcomes Research Data System

- Alliance of 20 national cancer centers
- Experts developed evidence-based clinical guidelines
- Conducting research to measure treatment patterns and outcomes
- COH serves as Data Coordinating Center
- Created an Internetbased data system, deployed nationwide for past 5 years

Use of Tamoxifen in Patients with DCIS Within 180 Days of Diagnosis



Tamoxifen time trend is statistically significant controlling for center (p <0

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John S. Silva Marion J. Ball Christopher G. Chute Judith V. Douglas Curtis P. Langlotz Joyce C. Niland William L. Scherlis Editors

Foreword by Richard D. Klausner

#### Cancer Informatics

Essential Technologies for Clinical Trials





#### HEALTH INFORMATICS SERIES

#### Structure of Clinical Data Systems within the Division of Information Sciences



#### Future Clinical Data Systems within the Division of Information Sciences



### How Do We Get There from Here?



### The Analysis.....

## A Case Study:

Shared Data for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma (NHL) Patients

#### **Intersecting Data Collection for NHL Patients**

#### NCCN: More Common NHL Histologies

#### BITS: All NHL BMT Recipients

#### **Reporting Requirements**

 Cancer Registry:
 State of California Department of Health Services

 Health Services
 American College of Surgeons

 SEER

NCCN:

Disease-specific Executive Committee

**BITS:** 

COH Investigators Study Sponsor National Cancer Institute

#### **NHL Inclusion Criteria Across the 3 Databases**

Inclusion Criterion:	Cancer Registry	NCCN Outcomes	BITS Clinical Trials
Histology	Any	Common only	Any
Age	Any	> 18 years	> 18 years
Prior Cancer	No exclusion, all recorded	No concurrent cancer	No previous cancer
Prior Treatment	Analytic & non-analytic	Primary rx at institution	Any (record all prior rx)
Current Treatment	Any	Any	BMT

#### **Processes & Timing of Data Collection**

Cancer Registry:	<ul> <li>Data collection starts after completion of 1st treatment course.</li> <li>Treatment prior to presentation requested, not required.</li> <li>No consent required.</li> </ul>
NCCN:	Data collection starts after consent. Treatment prior to presentation and outside treatment requested. Consent required prior to data collection.
BITS:	Data collection starts 100 days post-BMT. All treatments and relapses prior to presentation to COH must be recorded. Outside treatment required from physician offices or hospitals. Consent required.

#### NHL Data Collected Across the 3 Databases

Data Element	Cancer Registry	NCCN Outcomes	BITS Clinical Trials
Name	$\checkmark$	0	$\checkmark$
Medical Rec	# ⊻	0	$\checkmark$
DOB	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Gender	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Race	Very Detailed	Mod Detail	5 categ's
Hisp Origin	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Diagnosis	Clinical	Pathological	Pathological
Disease /	Follow	6 & 12 Mths,	Restage @ 30
Vital Status	Annually	then Annually	60, 100 days*

\* After 1 year post-BMT annual follow-up done through COH Long-term Followup Office

#### Entity-Attribute-Value (EAV) Map

Super Type Entity	Sub Type Entity	Att (	tribute Data ement)	Description	Domain
Person					
	Patient				
		Ger	nder	Patients	
				Gender	
					BITS
					CNET
					NCCN

#### **System Data Dictionary**

#### CNET

Technical Directory: This area describes the field format, length, storage, etc.

Business Directory: This area defines the element from the user's perspective.

#### **Domain Value Map**

	BITS		CNET			
Data Element	Code	Code Name	Data Element	Code	Code Name	
Sex			Gender			
	М	Male		1	Male	
	F	Female		2	Female	
	Х	Unknown		3	Hermaphrodite	
	Х	Unknown		4	Transexual	
	Х	Unknown		9	Unknown	



#### **NHL Treatment and Complication Data**

Data Element	Cancer Registry	NCCN Outcomes	BITS Clinical Trials
Chemo Start Date			√
Chemo End Date	Text		
Drugs Rec'd	Single vs. Multiple	Coded	Coded
Chemosensivity	Ο		Inferred
Rx Complications	0	10 Major	<b>Detailed CTC</b>

\* After 1 year post-BMT annual follow-up done through COH Long-term Followup Office

### **Re-engineering of Workflow**

Developing a system in which Cancer Registrars, Outcomes Data Managers and Clinical Research Associates combine efforts to eliminate redundant data, share data collection efforts



Staging of Data Integration Across Data Systems

Initial Presentation
 Diagnosis and Staging

Long Term Follow-up
 Relapse and Survival

General Case Reviews

### **1. Diagnosis and Staging**

- Change timing of CTR case review
  - CRA contacts assigned CTR when patient to go on clinical trial
  - Accept Cancer Registry diagnosis information as most accurate for all cancers
- Process created for rectification of disagreements
  - Provides additional quality assurance of data
- Fields added to track method of diagnosis
  - Different rules by reporting requirements
- Non-cancer diagnoses handled by CRA

### 2. Follow-up Data

- Phase in Cancer Registry collection of follow-up data, beginning with patients on national cooperative group studies
  - death and relapse only
  - contact outside sources for more detail
    - including some toxicity data
  - bring follow-up to within 12 months minimum
- CRAs continue to follow other patients
- Phase in additional Cancer Registry followup now that this segment is successful

### **3. Sharing of Case Reviews**

- Initiator of case shares completed data
  - Generally NCCN or BITS data completed first
  - Central registration of cases to determine if data already abstracted for a given patient
  - Online view-only access to each data system
- Subsequent data abstractors utilize information collected to date
  - Saves time, must be mindful of differences in definitions, timing, context
  - Provides additional quality assurance
  - Process for resolving discrepancies

### **Issues and Findings to Date**

- Most granular data should precede others
- Need to be continually mindful of differences in definitions, context of data collection
  - Accurate metadata!
- Improved accuracy achieved in many cases
  - Price is delays in collection, timing issues
- Able to bring CT follow-up into compliance through assistance by Registry staff
- Has led to improved communication and data flow between the 2 areas

Physical joint relocation of staff offices a plus

### **Future Plans**

#### Based on lessons learned through this process:

- Provide electronic data exchange among CNext, BITS, and NCCN systems
  - No redundant data entry
  - Requires ability to add user-defined builds
  - Ideal is to import electronic files into CNET
- Explore enhancement of data sharing e.g. via coded treatment data for all modalities
- Develop Web application interface for data collection
- Include systems as operational data 'feed' into research data warehouse
- Lessons learned are informing our model for "Fully Integrated Research Standards & Tech"

## **Prediction for the Future** of Tumor Registrars...



### Thanks to my collaborators....

Ina Ervin, Cancer Program Coordinator Janet Nikowitz, Outcomes Research Coordinator **Joycelynne Palmer, Sr. Systems Analyst** Geri Connie, CTR, Outcomes Data Manager Mudra Nathwani, Clinical Research Associate



### **Transition from Today...**



**Our Ultimate IAIMS Integration Project:** 

> **Research Data Warehouse**

#### **Obstacles to Data Warehousing for Research**

 Semantic/conceptual barriers pose the most substantial challenges to database interconnectivity

#### Standards for patient data are needed

 Data collection methods, taxonomies, level of comprehensiveness, granularity, and knowledge representation schema

 Leads to the requirement for "metadata", including unique concept identifiers and mapping tools

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	<u>Data:</u>	<vocabulary></vocabulary>								
	Demos	Propr-1	Propr-1	ACOS	Propr-1	Propr-2				
	Diagnosis	ICD-9*	SNOMED*	ICD-0*	ICD-9, NCI	ROADS				
	Treatment	СРТ	(Text)	(Text)	Propr-3	Propr-4				
	Toxicity		(Text)		СТС	Propr-5				
	Response		(Text)	ACOS	Propr-6	ACOS				
		*In the UMLS								

#### **Operational Systems:**

Unified clinical research system

			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
System:	A2K	OACIS	CNET	BITS	NCCN				
<u>Data:</u>	<>								
Demos	Propr-1	Propr-1	ACOS	Propr-1	Propr-2				
Diagnosis	ICD-9*	SNOMED*	ICD-0*	ICD-9, NCI	ROADS				
Treatment	СРТ	(Text)	(Text)	Propr-3	Propr-4				
Toxicity		(Text)		СТС	Propr-5				
Response		(Text)	ACOS	Propr-6	ACOS				
	*In the UMLS								

#### Metadata Are Critical!

Data about the data:
What data are available?
Who is responsible for it? ("data stewards")
Where is it stored? In what format? etc

#### Technical Directory:

Field name, format (character/numeric), length....

#### Business Directory:

 Definition of data field, how is it collected, what is the context, where is it used, ..... IAIMS: Integrated Advanced Information Management Systems



### Integrated Advanced Information Management System (IAIMS) Program

 Founded by the National Library of Medicine in 1984 to facilitate and fund information systems and integration

#### Goals:

 Manage medical knowledge more effectively
 Provide for a system of comprehensive and convenient information access

City of Hope funded by IAIMS program:
 Phase I Planning Grant: 1996-1998
 Phase II Implementation Grant: 1998-2003



#### **Biostatistics Information Tracking System (BITS)**



#### **Biostatistics Information Tracking System (BITS)**

