



Volume 1, Issue 1

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Cancer Registrar Chronicle

Message From Our President

Greeting ArCRA Members,
Happy New Year to All!

Please remember to download the membership application from the website (www.arcra-usa.org), and pay your dues. Speaking of the website...it is under construction. Now that the holidays are over, our webmaster is "gettin' on it". I'll keep everyone updated on the progress via emails.

I'm very excited about this year's education conference. Arkansas is collaborating with three other states: Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma. I attended the first conference call on Friday, January 10th.

The regional meeting is September 24-26, 2014 in Branson, Missouri, at the Hilton Convention Center across from Branson

Landing.
www.bransonconventioncenter.hilton.com

Room rates are \$109.00 per single or double occupancy and \$129.00 for triple or quad occupancy. Also, if you would like to stay before or after, the hotel will honor that rate, if rooms are available. Registration fee for the meeting is \$150.00 for members and \$175.00 for non-members.

This is going to be a great meeting and we couldn't ask for a better location!!! As always, I'll keep everyone updated as more information becomes available.

Stay safe and I'll be in touch,

Cynthia Gulley, CTR
2013-2014 ArCRA President

Welcome Hannah Caroline Victoria and Graham Thomas Gibbs! These beautiful twins are the proud babies of Laurie and Graham Gibbs. They were born on 12/13/13 and came home to celebrate with mom and dad on New Years Eve.

What a way to start a New Year!

Congratulations Gibbs family!



Special points of interest:

- *Regional Educational Conference September 24-26, 2014 in Branson, Missouri*
- *Membership Applications are on the website and able to be downloaded and turned in.*



ACCR Mission Statement:

To serve in the public collecting, analyzing, researching, and disseminating quality cancer data to help describe the burden of cancer, so evidence-based cancer prevention and control programs can be implemented to reduce cancer incidence and mortality in Arkansas.

Volunteers needed...

Looking for volunteers to be on the **Advisory Committee**. What's that you ask?

ACACCR (Advisory Committee Arkansas Central Cancer Registry) advises and supports the ACCR in achieving its mission and to contribute to the knowledge of cancer prevention and control for use in improving quality of life for all Arkansans diagnosed and treated with cancer.

ACACCR also fulfills the CDC, NPCR program requirement that Arkansas Central Cancer Registry establishes and regularly convenes an advisory committee to assist in building consensus, cooperation and planning for the registry.

Contact: **Theressia Mitchell**

Theressia.mitchell@arkansas.gov

Message From Our President-Elect

Hello to all my fellow ArCRA members and friends. I don't have much to report since I'm just riding our President's coat tail for now, but I'm already learning so much and am excited to have the opportunity to serve my association. 2014 is going to

be a fantastic year! We've got an exciting regional meeting in the planning phases for September 24th-26th so mark your calendars because you won't want to miss this one. Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy Fantastic New Year and let's

look forward to great things in 2014!

Jennifer Fielding, RHIT, CTR
President-Elect.

Big Thank You From Our Secretary!

Who said having a group of professionals spread across the entire state can not be a family? This is one of the reason's why I have remained in my post at my facility.

I want to say THANK YOU to everyone of you who made me smile on the day I returned to work after my unexpected surgery. This was the first time I was away from the office for a length of time and I was returning with that feeling of dread that we all have knowing that when we are away, No One takes our jobs over and help to keep our work from piling up

so much. To my surprise though, when my computer came to life my inbox had over 100 messages and most of them were messages from you all. Thank you! This was unexpected and very much appreciated.

Stepping away from the mushy feely stuff and getting more serous, I am very honored and humbled to have



been voted in your secretary for the next couple of years. Please, let me know what I can do for you. I will be helping anyone out spreading news through out the year.

Again, Thank you for your vote and have a wonderful New Year.

Karyn Cramer, CTR

ArCRA Secretary 2013-2014

Have You Met Your Treasurer?

Sharon DeRamus, what can I say...She is a fun loving and inspirational gal! Did you know she worked as an LPN in 1974? In 2005 she caught the Cancer Registry bug and began abstracting at North Arkansas Regional Medical Center. Sharon joined ArCRA a year later in 2006. Most registry people feel, it is important to obtain your CTR title so, she sat for her certification (and passed) in 2008. Sharon also holds a membership with NCRA.

Sharon has been the ArCRA treasurer before in 2009, and looks forward to serving yet once

again. Sharon currently works for the ADH Central Registry.

Sharon is a bright, ray of sunshine, and I believe you can hear that infectious laughter for a mile. She is a wife to a wonderful man, Garry where they live happily in Eureka Springs with a beautiful Scottie named Mollie. Sharon adores them both.

Once again, I give to you...

.Sharon DeRamus, ArCRA Treasurer!

ArCRA members...

I give to you...



*Sharon DeRamus,
2014-2015 Treasurer*

(applause! OHH...Ahh!)

Importance of Updating and Maintaining a Website!

As the new age world has approached us with this thing called technology, it is important to remember to not get caught in the "Build it and Forget it" syndrome of the website world.

The new web is all about content, websites that are proven to receive the most hits are those that constantly changing, being added to, and improved upon.

I have found 3 reasons to update your website...#1: the search engine will move them up in the rankings when you have more hits to the

site. This means when you search for Cancer Registrars...the site that comes up first is the most common site visited. #2 If people come back and nothing changes it gives off the perception that the organization is not changing and probably not doing too well. And finally #3 Changing your website will enhance it's performance. By analyzing data from your changes, you will find what works and doesn't work. Watch and constantly change.

For ArCRA, it is what will bring in membership and what won't. Let's join Cynthia in the interest in making our website survive.



Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

1 Corinthians 13:7, NLT

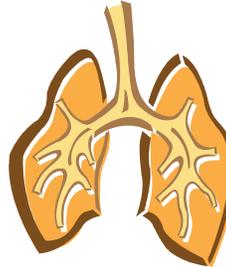
We help fight the war against cancer!

Test Your Knowledge Case #1

When you have a hilar mass, what is it? SEER guidelines now say if there is no mention of adenopathy AND no other lung lesions, it is probably the primary, code to C34.0 for hilum of lung. If it IS called adenopathy or there IS a primary lesion elsewhere in the lung, then it is hilar lymph nodes

Example:

CT: 4.8 cm mass infiltrating R hilum, encasing R main pulm artery w/severe narrowing SVC (causing SVC syndrome), ext into subcarinal & pretracheal space; small AP window & anterior mediastinum LNs; 2 cm RUL nodule, small R pl eff; L lobe liver & L adrenal susp for mets.



Answer:

Primary site c34.1 RUL Lung
 CS TS - 020 (nodule in RUL)
 CS Ext - 100 (4.8 cm mass R hilum)
 CS LNs - 100
 CS Mets - 42 (pl eff, liver/L adrenal mets)

Test Your Knowledge Case #2

We have a case that was initially diagnosed as "brain neoplasm" by CT on 6/13/13 and also as "brain tumor" by MRI on 6/13/13. A near total resection was performed on 6/14/13 and pathology was read as Glioblastoma Multiforme, WHO Grade IV. What is the date of diagnosis and why?

Answer:

The date of diagnosis is 6/13/13. "Neoplasm" and "tumor" are reportable terms for brain and CNS cases. Please note that there is only a one-day difference among the choices for diagnosis date in this case. While the logic behind the date of diagnosis decision in this case can be applied to other cases, coding the day of diagnosis as either 13 or 14

“Neoplasm” and “tumor” are reportable terms for brain and CNS cases in all benign and as scenario shows malignant cases as well.

would not make any significant difference for this particular case.

Regional Educational Conference

This conference is the ArCRA Annual Conference, only this time we will collaborate with regional states: Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma. What a time this will be! Imagine what we can learn from each other.



The conference will be held in the fabulous town of Branson,

That “A-Ha” Moment!

Missouri. Guaranteed to have something for everyone in entertainment and shopping.

Conference Site:
 Hilton Convention Center
 Across from Branson Landing.
 Rates: \$109 single or double
 \$ 129 triple or quad occupancy

www.bransonconventioncenter.hilton.com

- will honor the rates for days before and after.

Registration Fee:
 \$150 members , \$175 for non-members

ARKANSAS CANCER REGISTRAR ASSOCIATION



A non-profit organization.

We're on the web!

www.Arcra-usa.org



WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER?

Membership forms are located online at:

www.arcra-usa.org

click: Membership Tab

click: NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

click: Open

Print and fill out

Send along with membership fees to:

Sharon DeRamus

Certification?

The National Cancer Registrars Association's (NCRA) Council on Certification administers an [examination during three 3-week testing windows](#). Candidates must meet eligibility requirements that include a combination of experience in the cancer registry field and educational background. After successfully passing the certification examination, the Certified Tumor Registrar (CTR®) credential is awarded. Persons who have successfully completed the certification examination have demonstrated that they have met or exceeded the standard level of experience and technical knowledge required for effective cancer data management. To maintain a certified status, the current continuing education requirements

of NCRA must be met. The required continuing education and training keeps the CTR abreast of new developments in the field of oncology and registry data management. Thus the registrar's knowledge and skills are continuously enhanced. For more information concerning certification, visit the NCRA web site at: www.ctrexam.org or contact ctrexam@ncra-usa.org.



2014 CTR EXAM

Candidates [Handbook & Application](#)

Dates: March 8 - 29

June 21 - July 12

October 18 - November 8

Have a stubborn case? Now you can use your fellow registrars for help...

SINQ: is a system of questions submitted by other registrars.

SEER SINQ Updates

http://seer.cancer.gov/seerinqury/index.php?home_show=first&page=home&