

# GUIDANCE: 2024 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**2024 NCRA ANNUAL CONFERENCE** APRIL 24-27, 2024

INDIANAPOLIS, IN • JW MARRIOTT INDIANAPOLIS



## **National Cancer Registrars Association 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference**

### **Abstract Submission Guidance and Topics April 24-27, 2024 Indianapolis, IN**

Share your expertise with the cancer registrar community at NCRA's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference (NCRA 2024) to be held in Indianapolis, IN at the JW Marriott Indianapolis, April 24-27, 2024. Oral and poster abstracts will be accepted through the [2024 NCRA Online Abstract Collection Site](#) through Friday, August 18, 2023. All submissions will be acknowledged and reviewed by the 2024 Program Committee. Authors of selected abstracts will be notified by mid-October 2023.

#### **Submission Guidelines**

Through NCRA's Online Abstract Collection Site, you will be asked to note if your submission is intended as an oral or poster presentation. The 2024 Program Committee will make the final decision on the intended presentation's format, title, description, and will ask the presenter for their agreement. Both oral and poster presentation abstracts must include a short title that is descriptive, three learning objectives, a 175-word description, and a 150-word bio for **each** presenter. (There should be no more than two presenters per abstract submission.) NCRA is accepting oral abstract proposals for both plenary (45-60 minutes) and concurrent sessions (30-45 minutes).

Please do NOT send supplemental materials, such as articles, reports, or PowerPoint presentations. These items will not be seen by the Program Committee. Those selected for oral presentations will be asked to submit a PowerPoint presentation and additional materials at a later date. Those selected for poster presentations will receive details on specifications and instructions in January 2024. The person submitting the abstract will be the main point-of-contact, receiving all correspondence from NCRA. They are asked to keep their co-presenter informed. **IMPORTANT: Selected speakers and posters presenters will be required to present in-person in Indianapolis, IN.**

#### **Requested Topics for NCRA 2024**

##### **Updates from National/Federal Cancer Registry Partners**

- American Cancer Society
- CDC-NPCR
- NCI-SEER
- NAACCR
- Other Cancer Surveillance Partners

##### **Update from the American College of Surgeons**

- Best practices on meeting compliance with operative standards.
- In-depth updates on CoC, NAPBC, and NAPRC standards.
- Information and updates on the Pediatric Cancer Program (PCP).

- History of collecting follow-up in the NCDB; any insight seen with the change to Standard 6.5.
- Rules for the road and best practices with navigating the CAnswer Forum.

### **Update from the American Joint Committee on Cancer**

- Detailed updates and clarifications on the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual.

### **Casefinding**

- Showcase new casefinding practices, such as any advancements in utilizing AI.

### **Abstracting/Coding/Staging**

- Specific, hands-on cases highlighting difficult abstracting and coding issues. Review common errors and how to address them. Focus on advanced-level training and highlight class of case, ICD-O topography and histology, grade, solid tumor rules, site specific data items (SSDI), clinical and pathological staging, neoadjuvant therapy, and treatment, especially coding radiation.

Disease sites include:

- Bile Duct
  - Head & Neck
  - Hematopoietic/rare blood cancers
  - Lung
  - Melanoma
  - Pediatric cancers (and the Toronto Pediatric Cancer Staging Guidelines)
  - Prostate
- In-depth review of how to use manuals and reference materials.
  - Extensive updates with detailed explanations of any pending abstraction, collection, and reporting changes planned for 2024 and beyond.

### **Pathology and Radiation**

- Pathology – stand-alone session on reading pathology reports. Highlight specific cases.
- Radiation – stand-alone session on coding radiation. Showcase examples.

### **Cancer Advancements and Treatments**

- Highlight new cancer treatments, including biologic drugs, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and photon-therapy.
- Review new surgical treatments and updated codes.
- Provide updates on advancements in genetics and precision medicine.

### **Follow-Up**

- Highlight new and innovative ways to address follow-up.

### **Data Quality**

- Best practices in managing data quality.
- Best practices for documenting TEXT in abstracts that support data quality and national coding guidelines.
- Detail successful quality improvement initiatives.
- Highlight the value of the CTR credential and its impact on data quality.

### **Data Use**

- Detail the importance of high-quality facility, state, national, and international cancer registry data and illustrate how it is used to advance cancer treatment and care.
- Explain how cancer data translates to epidemiological studies and funding opportunities.
- Generating useful reports for cancer registry managers to monitor data trends.
- Statistical terms and their meaning in cancer surveillance.

### **Future of the Cancer Registry Profession**

- The impact of AI and NLP on the work of the cancer registrar.
- Data automation and the role of the cancer registrar with data quality.
- Health Informatics 101 for cancer registrars; the languages of technology.
- Thoughts on the skills, expertise, education, certification, and training needed to prepare the next generation of cancer registrars.
- Innovative ways cancer registries can work with accredited formal education programs to provide students with practicum experience.

### **Registry Management**

- Remote working. Address the challenges, such as managing productivity; highlight successful communications and team building strategies; showcase technologies that work, such as facilitating virtual cancer conferences; review effective policies and procedures; and outline ways to onboard registrars in a remote work environment.
- Innovative ways cancer registrars can ensure professional connections in a remote work setting.
- Outline successful processes for updating and managing the ever-changing manuals and cancer registry resources required to abstract cases accurately.
- Best practices for onboarding new employees, including those new to the field and experienced registrars.
- Best practices for how to set/determine productivity standards for smaller community hospital programs.
- Registry workforce. Outline successful strategies for recruiting and retaining registrars, initiatives to train new registrars, and proven ways to manage contractors or a hospital system's outsourcing contract.
- Best practices to manage registry workflow and ways to address productivity and improve efficiencies.
- Review the budget process and outline best practices for financial management and oversight to ensure efficient and effective management of a registry.
- Understanding cyber security and developing contingency plans to address emergencies.
- Effective communication skills for professionals.

### **Central Registries**

- Developing continuity of operational plans (e.g., disasters, furloughs, telework, personal preparedness, etc.)
- Best practices to ensure all reporting facilities, especially physician offices and free-standing centers, report cases to the central registry.
- Best practices to build strong collaborative relationships with reporting facilities.
- Innovations in data collection, linkages, and working in the "cloud."
- Best practices in Quality Control/Quality Improvement (auditing, visual review, etc.)
- Best practices in evaluating performance (registry processes, data timeliness, data completeness)

- Using linkages to address gaps identified in data quality and completeness or to improve the utility of the data.
- Advances in data modernization and electronic data exchange.
- Pediatric cancers and the Toronto Pediatric Cancer Staging Guidelines.

### **Education/Training**

- Innovative practicum options in light of remote working environments.
- Best practices in training the next generation of HIM and cancer registry professionals.
- Share experiences in establishing an NCRA Accredited Formal Education Program.
- Ideas on how to dovetail HIM and cancer registry certificate programs.