National Cancer Registrars Association
52nd Annual Educational Conference
Louisville Marriott Downtown
Louisville, Kentucky
May 5-8, 2026

Abstract Submission Guidance and Topics

Share your expertise with the cancer registrar community at NCRA's 52nd Annual Educational Conference to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, at the Louisville Marriott Downtown, May 5-8, 2026. Oral presentations and poster abstracts will be accepted through the **2026 NCRA Online Abstract Collection Site.** The submission deadline is Friday, September 5, 2025.

Submission Guidelines
Cancer registrars, clinicians, standard setters, national partners, and cancer registry professionals are encouraged to submit an abstract through NCRA's Online Abstract Collection Site. Those submitting will be asked to note if the abstract is intended as an oral or poster presentation**.** The 2026 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, and a 175-word description. Submitters must also include a 150-word bio for **each** presenter/author and ensure their profile information is completed. 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. The Program Committee will not review these items. Those selected for oral presentations will be required 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 2026. 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(s) informed. IMPORTANT: Selected speakers and poster presenters are required to present **in-person** in Louisville, KY.

Abstract Review Process
NCRA's 2026 Program Committee reviews and grades all submissions. Authors should prepare their abstracts with care, using clear and concise language. This will ensure Program Committee members understand the significance of the topic, the objectives of the presentation, and the relevance to the cancer registry community. The Program Committee uses the highest scored abstracts to develop the final conference program. Authors of selected abstracts will be notified by mid-November 2025.

Special Request for Pediatric and Adolescent/Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Abstracts
NCRA is looking to create a "Pediatric and Adolescent & Young Adult (AYA)" track at its 2026 Annual Conference. To that end, researchers who focus on pediatric and/or AYA cancers, physicians who treat this population, and organizations that accredit or support pediatric/AYA cancer programs are encouraged to submit abstracts.

Requested General Topics
A list of requested topics is detailed below.

Updates from National/Federal Cancer Registry Partners
- American Cancer Society
- CDC-NPCR
- NCI-SEER
- NAACCR
- Update on cancer surveillance advocacy efforts, review successes, and outline challenges ahead.

Update from the American Joint Committee on Cancer
- Detailed updates and clarifications on the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual rules.
- Review of FAQs submitted to AJCC.

Abstracting/Coding/Staging
- Presentations on how to use manuals and resource/references materials.
- Showcase common coding errors and review how best to address.
- Extensive updates with detailed explanations of any pending abstraction, collection, and reporting changes planned for 2026 and beyond.
- Demonstrate the usefulness of the NCCN guidelines in understanding patient treatment.

Case Finding
- Showcase new case finding practices, including how AI has been incorporated into activities.

Data Quality
- Methods for conducting quality assurance, including proven methods and tools.
- Outline successful quality improvement initiatives and how to conduct throughout the year.
- Highlight the value of the ODS 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 the data are used to advance cancer treatment and care.
- Explain how cancer data translates to epidemiological studies and funding opportunities.
- Review how to generate useful reports for cancer registry managers to monitor and showcase data trends.

Follow-Up
- Highlight new and innovative ways to address follow-up, including how automation is impacting this process.

Informatics
- Updates on AI and NLP and how these advancements in informatics will impact the work of the cancer registrar.
- Hands-on review of data tools like Excel, Tableau, and Power BI.
- Review the role of the cancer registrar to ensure data quality in a world of increased automation.
- Highlight educational opportunities to help registrars build informatics skill sets.

Pathology
- Review how to read pathology reports, using specific cases. Pathologists are encouraged to submit.

Radiation
- Review how to code radiation therapy, highlighting difficult cases.

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.

CONCURRENT TRACKS

Central Registries
- Best practices in central registry operations.
- How to manage early incidence reporting and increased data flows.
- Review the distinct roles of central and hospital registrars.
- Demonstrate how central registries can support cancer registry student practicums.
- Highlight ways central registries and hospital registries can communicate better.
- Review advances in data modernization and electronic data exchange, including updates on pathology reporting and eMaRC.

CoC Cancer Programs
- Best practices on meeting compliance with operative standards.
- In-depth updates on CoC, NAPBC, and NAPRC standards.
- Information on new or expanding CoC accreditations.
- Quality-focused topics or goals related to NCDB data.
- RCRS Quality Metrics: how to analyze results and present to cancer committee and other stakeholders at your organization.

Pediatrics
- Review statistics for cancers in children, adolescents, and young adults (AYA).
- Updates on the treatments for pediatric/AYA cancers.
- Review of how to abstract pediatric/AYA cancer cases, including coding, SSDIs, text documentation, and consolidation.
- Information on childhood/AYA leukemias, specifically acute myeloid and B-All.
- Explanations for the increase in cancer in the AYA population.
- Review of pediatric accreditation programs.
- Discuss the National Childhood Cancer Registry (NCCR) as a growing public health surveillance data resource and the availability and use of NCCR Data Products.

Professional Development
- Information on how to craft a career in cancer registry management, including how to write a resume, use LinkedIn, build a network, and procure the anticipated skills to thrive in the future.
- Showcase the importance of volunteering at the state or national level to develop professionally.
- Highlight ways to improve leadership skills, manage remote staff, and keep your team engaged.

Registry Management
- Best practices to manage registry workflow and ways to address productivity.
- 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 in budget development.
- Strategies to support ODS-certified cancer registrars in securing education and training.
- Success at promoting the work of the registry within one's facility.