

# Indiana Abstract

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## President Claudia Jenkins, CTR



Even though we are early into this year, it has been as eventful for me as well as your board. On February 2, 2017, I was notified by The Palms that their building had been sold. The company that bought it, is building a hotel next door and will be joining the two buildings together. The Palms will not be available for the dates of our conference. Our deposit that was paid on January 22, 2016, was refunded and has been deposited into ICRA's account. Your Program Chair for the upcoming year, Sherry Dowling, CTR and myself went on a search looking for a new venue. After careful consideration we decided to have the conference at Primo South Banquet & Catering 2615 National Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46227. I have made hotel arrangements with Best Western Indianapolis South. The hotel is 5.4 miles from the venue. I have to admit that I have been spoiled staying in the hotel that adjoins the conference venue, but this year that is not possible. Now that the Martin House/Lilly Conference Center is not available, we hope for good weather to and from the venue. There is an abundance of delicious restaurants near the hotel, some are even within walking distance. Look for information later from your Ways and Means Chair, Joann Schultz, RHIT, CTR for information on a restaurant (s) for a fundraiser for ICRA. We have 25 rooms held at the price of \$79.89, plus tax for a two queen bed room, per night. Breakfast is also included in that price. The cutoff date for the group rate will be 10/25/2017. If you would like to make a reservation at the Best Western you can either call the property direct at 317-888-5588 and mention the group name, ICRA, or book online at: <http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/groupSearch.do?groupId=Q64XW1U3>

I also wanted to share a couple of other things that your board is working on. I had a question in regards to our Fall Conference and Category A CE credits. Category A CE credits are a new requirement for CTRs in 2017. Please see the article by your NCRA Liaison, Kolleen Spencer, CTR for additional information on these CE credits. The Category A question has been addressed by your Program Chair, Sherry Dowling, CTR and the Conference we are working on planning the conference accordingly. We look forward to seeing those of you that need these continuing education credits at the Fall Conference.

I had another question in regards to the possibility of adding other payment options for members to use in addition to paying by check for ICRA fees. This would include membership dues and the Fall Conference registration. Your Treasurer, Leslie Woodard, CHCM, CTR, has gathered the information for the Board and this will be brought up for discussion and a possible change in policy at the next Board of Directors meeting in May. We will keep you updated.

[President- Elect/ISDH Liaison, Laura Ruppert, MHA](#)

As your President Elect, I am in the process of securing a venue for the 2018 Indiana Cancer Registrars Annual Conference. Once that decision is made, I will share that information with the membership.

If you are interested in being an ICRA Committee member or Liaison for the 2018 Board of Directors, please mark your interest on the ICRA Membership application or send an e-mail to [icra\\_indiana@yahoo.com](mailto:icra_indiana@yahoo.com) or to myself at [lpruppert@yahoo.com](mailto:lpruppert@yahoo.com). The President Elect is responsible for filling the non-elected positions on the Board during the term as President-Elect.

An audit of the Treasurer books will completed in the near future.

**INDIANA STATE CANCER REGISTRY**

Just a reminder, the Indiana State Cancer Registry (ISCR) has purchased the 2016-2017 North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) webinar series. This series is available at no cost to individual CTRs. Please contact Marsha Lundy if you would like more information: (317)233-7158.

The ISCR submitted 2014 data to both NAACCR and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Program of Cancer Registries in November, 2016. Results of the quality, timeliness, and completeness are pending. **Both of these submissions directly reflect of the outstanding work of CTRs across Indiana.** If the data are acceptable Indiana will be

included in the *Cancer Incidence in North America* and the *United States Cancer Statistics* publications.

Indiana submitted a proposal for funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Cancer Prevention and Control Programs for State, Territorial Organizations, CDC-RFA-DP17-1701. This is the federal funding for our state cancer registry. Additionally, this year there was an opportunity to apply for funding for an enhanced project to identify the feasibility of and/or barriers to collection of cervical cancer precursor data. I will keep everyone informed about the success of both of these applications.

### On the Horizon

The Indiana Cancer Consortium (ICC) Annual meeting: April 26, 2017 to be held at Ivy Tech Conference Center. Look for details to be released soon by the ICC on how to register for this event.

Utilizing cancer data collected from reporting entities in Indiana, Cancer Surveillance Section Director, Laura Ruppert, MHA and Cancer Epidemiologist, Amanda Raftery, MPH, RD have been invited to share their presentation via a poster display entitled, *How Indiana's Use of Cancer Registry Data Guides Planning, Marketing, Education and Needs Assessments* at the 2017 National Cancer Registries Association Annual Meeting in April of 2017, in Washington, DC.

### Vice President/NCRA & CoC Liaison-Kolleen Spencer, CTR

The years of 2016 and 2017 have been and continue to be on-going changes for the cancer registry profession! But diligence and hard work has proven that the challenges have been met. The theme for this year's National Cancer Registrars Week is *Putting the Pieces Together*, a true reflection of the accountability of a cancer registrar. Below is an excerpt from an article by Michele Webb CTR, summarizing our profession as a privilege not only a profession.

#### *The Privilege of Being Invited*

What an incredible privilege we have to be held in sacred trust with the intimate details and knowledge of someone's life. And, if we are ever so lucky, we will see into someone's story and realize that their information can be used to lift the dark cloud and devastating hold of cancer for generations to come. With their information we contribute to a lasting hope for a better life, new cancer treatments, improved outcomes, survivorship and patient care experiences.



Please be sure to celebrate during National Cancer Registrars Week.

**2017 National Cancer Registrars Week**

**Cancer Registrars: Putting the Pieces Together**

**April 10-14, 2017**

On the NCRA website ([www.ncra-usa.org/ncrw](http://www.ncra-usa.org/ncrw)) find the electronic version of the press release and the following:

- **Cancer Registrar “Elevator Speech”:** NCRA prepared a simple speech to help explain the valuable work of cancer registrars.
- **Introduction to the Cancer Registry:** Use the link to the *Introduction to the Cancer Registry* materials on the Center for Cancer Registry Education website ([www.CancerRegistryEducation.org/introduction-to-the-cancer-registry](http://www.CancerRegistryEducation.org/introduction-to-the-cancer-registry)) to help explain the work and contributions of a cancer registrar.
- **Celebration Ideas:** Borrow proven ideas for NCRW celebration plans and events.
- **NCRW Logo:** Download the NCRW logo to create an NCRW e-mail signature and to develop your own promotional materials.
- **NCRW e-Postcards:** Send this e-card to your colleagues and administrators.
- **2017 NCRW Online Survey:** The NCRW Committee seeks member feedback in order to improve current celebratory NCRW efforts. After the event, please complete the online survey.

## 2017 Annual Conference Registration Now Open!

NCRA's Annual Educational Conference (NCRA 2017) will be held April 5-8, 2017, at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in Washington, DC. One day of sessions will focus solely on the *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual, Eighth Edition*

### New for 2017

- **RQRS Data Submission**-For those programs enrolled in the RQRS, the new submission criteria has been posted. The specified criteria has to be met to achieve compliance/commendation on Standard 5.2
- **The New CQIIP and NCDB completeness reports** are now uploaded on the American College of Surgeons website.
- **NCDB** “Call for Data” submission has been extended to March 15, 2017
- The implementation of the **AJCC 8<sup>th</sup> Edition Cancer Staging System** has been delayed to January 1, 2018. All newly diagnosed cases through December 31st 2017 should be staged with the 7th edition.
- Watch for the NAACCR 16D metafile upgrade in February 2017

### Category A Requirement for CTR Continuing Education

**WHAT:** CTR credentialed individuals are required to comply with a new continuing education standard as set forth by NCRA's Council on Certification. At least four (4) of the required 20 CE hours must fall within:

“**Category A**” which covers the specific topic(s) of: directly assigned stage and/or site specific coding principles.

**WHO/WHEN:** All current CTRs will be required to comply with this mandatory CE policy. The **Category A** requirement goes into effect for **CTRs whose CE Cycle ends 12/31/2017**.

**HOW:** The **Category A** CE's are to satisfy at least 4 of a CTR's 20 CE minimum. CTRs that completed **Category A** CE's in 2016 will be allowed to use those CE's to fulfill the requirement. You are encouraged to tailor your CEs to the role you perform in your daily work. **Category A** CE's are to be submitted along with other completed CEs during the CE Cycle.

A CTR may complete training(s) from any provider(s) on **Category A** topics to attain required CE content. To qualify for CE's, content must improve or expand the existing base of knowledge or skills of the CTR.

#### Examples of typical activities for Category A credit

- **Directly assigned stage**

##### **SEER Summary Stage**

Activities under this topic may include materials that define directly assigned SEER Summary Stage, including guidelines and code structure (in situ, localized, regional by direct extension, regional lymph nodes, regional NOS, and distant)

##### **AJCC Clinical and Pathologic TNM Staging**

Activities under this topic would define the TNM categories and stage group requirements for clinical and pathologic staging, anatomy (e.g. prostate), regional lymph nodes, metastatic sites and prognostic factors (e.g. Gleason score, Prostate-specific antigen).

- **Site specific coding** Activities under this topic may include training relevant to specific site (e.g. prostate) requirements for coding (e.g. number of cores examined/positive, clinical staging procedure).

##### **COC**

##### **Special Study to Target Prostate Cancer Surveillance**

A Special Study will be launched in the coming months to investigate follow-up and recurrence after prostate cancer treatment in hopes of tailoring follow-up based on individual risk. This study will involve analyzing data from the National Cancer Data Base (NCDB) to determine surveillance patterns for prostate cancer. We anticipate a study start date this spring. Please watch your email accounts over the next month for the official announcement.

#### [Past President/Nominations Committee Chair & Website Committee-Cassie Nobbe, CTR](#)

The call for nominations will officially be sent out in the late spring/early summer. You can nominate yourself or a colleague for a position on the Board of Directors during this time frame. The following positions will be available during the election: President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The positions of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are a one year commitment. The office of President-Elect is a three year commitment as you

serve as President-Elect, President, and Past President. The Board meets a total of four times a year, which includes the transitional meeting at the annual fall conference. If you would like to learn more about any of the positions, feel free to send me an e-mail at [cassandra.nobbe@mmhealth.org](mailto:cassandra.nobbe@mmhealth.org) or access information on the website.

The website address for ICRA is [www.icra-indiana.net](http://www.icra-indiana.net). The website is routinely updated and a unique ID and a password are set annually for the membership only section. This ID and password works with the membership cycle and is active from April 1-March 31 of the following year. Please contact the webmaster at [icra\\_indiana@yahoo.com](mailto:icra_indiana@yahoo.com) for any questions or concerns regarding the website.

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#### Secretary/Membership Chair/IHIMA Liaison- Martha Hill, AAS, CTR

Membership Drive is Underway!

Happy winter, the holiday season has come and gone and spring is on its way. The 2017 ICRA Membership drive is currently underway. Each member should have received an e-mail with the membership application attachment. Please feel free to duplicate for other members of your team or new members that have recently joined your staff. If you did not receive one or would prefer an application be mailed to you, please contact me at [mhill1@crh.org](mailto:mhill1@crh.org).

Being a member of ICRA provides many perks, such as our newsletter, "The Indiana Abstract", education, access to our website and discount to the ICRA Fall Conference. More importantly, being a member of ICRA, gives each of us an abundance of resources by virtue of networking with other ICRA members. We have all made and continue to make so many friends and learn by the knowledge of networking with ICRA members. Membership fees are minimal at \$25.00 per year.

Let's all work together to grow our organization.

Treasurer-Leslie Woodard, CHCM, CTR

Indiana Cancer Registrars Association					
Quarter 3: Fiscal Year 2016-2017					
Beginning Balance	October	November	December	\$ 12,487.41	
<b>Income:</b>					
Membership	\$ 25.00	\$ 185.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 285.00	
Conference	\$ 7,640.00	\$ 750.00		\$ 8,390.00	
Public Relations	\$ 2,400.00			\$ 2,400.00	
Ways & Means		\$ 335.00		\$ 335.00	
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$ 10,065.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,270.00</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,410.00</b>	
<b>Expense:</b>					
Website Maintance (Vessio)	\$ 49.99	\$ 49.99	\$ 49.99	\$ 149.97	
Printing		\$ 17.12		\$ 17.12	
Postage		\$ 94.00		\$ 94.00	
Conference - Marten House		\$ 9,239.98		\$ 9,239.98	
Conference Plaques		\$ 137.68		\$ 137.68	
Conference Supplies		\$ 128.16		\$ 128.16	
Conference Speakers		\$ 1,200.00		\$ 1,200.00	
Historian - gift		\$ 25.00		\$ 25.00	
NCRA - CE		\$ 75.00		\$ 75.00	
<b>Total Expense:</b>	<b>\$ 49.99</b>	<b>\$ 10,966.93</b>	<b>\$ 49.99</b>	<b>\$ 11,066.91</b>	
<b>Ending Balance</b>					<b>\$ 12,830.50</b>
Balance Savings Account					\$ 10,147.77
CD					\$ 10,110.61
<b>Total Assets for ICRA as of 12/31/16</b>					<b>\$ 33,088.88</b>
Respectfully submitted 01/20/2017 by:					
Sherry Dowling, CTR					
2015-2016 ICRA Treasurer					
Leslie Woodard, CHCM, CTR					
2017 ICRA Treasurer					

Education-Lisa LaGue, CTR**Good news for all cancer registrars!**

There are no reportability changes required this year by any of the cancer registry standard setters. After AJCC announced the implementation of the 8<sup>th</sup> edition is delayed until 2018, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) resolved not to revise their Standards Volume II, which contains the data dictionary. As a result, there will not be a Version 17 of the NAACCR data layout.

What does this mean for cancer registrars? **No data conversion is needed prior to abstracting 2017 diagnosed cases!**

Version 16 will continue to be used until Version 18 becomes effective 1/1/2018, along with AJCC 8<sup>th</sup> Edition and very likely many other reporting requirements. NAACCR's Volume II Version 18 is slated to be released in July 2017, which should allow required changes to be incorporated into registry software in a timely manner prior to abstracting 2018 diagnosed cases. Keep your fingers crossed!

Although there are no reportability changes, there are a few histology coding clarifications you need to know for both lung and thyroid cases diagnosed in 2017 and forward. The clarifications are listed in the table at the end of this article.

No changes in the reporting requirements is good news for all of us, but it creates a dilemma for me in my role as the Education and Training Coordinator for the Indiana State Cancer Registry. Without "new" topics for training, I must "recycle" topics. Consequently, training workshops this year will cover a variety of abstracting principles. Last year, three of the four ISCR workshops were devoted entirely to AJCC staging. Because AJCC staging is a complex subject, it will be included this year, but other data collected by cancer registries will be emphasized.

Besides selecting training topics, I have also contemplated workshop formats and educational methods. The workshops held in 2016 consisted mostly of a previously recorded AJCC webinar followed by a question-and-answer interactive session. Personally, I prefer this approach because I do not have to prepare as much and it is easier on my vocal cords; however, I am not convinced it best approach for retaining knowledge.

Recently I started following an on-line quilting forum and I read a post which made me question a better method for teaching registrars. The post included a statement that it takes 66 times for people to remember things. (*Really, 66 times???*)

Of course I had to search for the truth in that statement. I found most studies do agree repetition is key for memory retention, but the precise number of repetitions is disputable.

During my search, I found a Chinese proverb that helped me decide how to structure workshops this year.

*Tell me, I will forget.  
Show me, I will remember.  
Involve me, I will understand.*

Last year, I did not include any “hands-on” practice cases. While some registrars enjoy working through practice cases during workshops, many others do not and quickly lose interest in participating. (*Really, I have to bring a coding manual and complete an abstract?*) Practice cases are not my favorite, but I can appreciate their value. **Involve me, I will understand.**

Truthfully, that is how I best learn. What about you? My plan is to include practice cases at each workshop this year. (*But I still do not want to complete an abstract for a practice case!*) I do not want you to lose interest, so you will not have to code every field, but the practice cases will include “extra” details to make it more realistic. After all, if a medical record is condensed to just a handful of words, it is not as difficult to know what should be coded. Here is an example:

Case #1. Path report - Left forearm, excision: Malignant melanoma  
Primary Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Histology: \_\_\_\_\_

That is really condensed, but I hope you get the point. My goal is to “involve” you with practice cases to help you both remember and understand abstracting principles, so there will be a change to the workshops with the addition of practice cases; however, due to my inexperience with virtual meeting technology, the workshops will still be conducted in-person and, if feasible, will be recorded so registrars unable to attend will be able to view them at their convenience.

The workshops are scheduled for May 4, July 13 and September 7. Further details will be sent in March, but as usual, all will be held at the Indiana State Department of Health and there will be no registration fee.

Histology Coding Clarifications Effective January 1, 2017 and Forward		
Primary Site	Description	Histology/Behavior Code
Lung (C34.0 - C34.9)	Adenocarcinoma in-situ, mucinous	8253/2
	Invasive adenocarcinoma, mucinous, bronchiolo-alveolar carcinoma (BAC), mucinous type	8253/3
	Mixed invasive mucinous and non-mucinous adenocarcinoma; BAC, mixed mucinous and non-mucinous	8254/3
Thyroid (C73.9)	Non-invasive follicular thyroid neoplasm with papillary-like nuclear features (NIFTP)	8343/2
	Non-invasive encapsulated follicular variant of papillary thyroid carcinoma (non-invasive EFVPTC)	8343/2
	Invasive encapsulated follicular variant of papillary thyroid carcinoma (invasive EFVPTC)	8343/3

2017 Program Chair-Sherry Dowling, CTR

Committee Members: All board members who offered their assistance...Thank You!

Many things through life inspire us to be what we are today. As we ponder for a moment, can you think of the one thing or were there several things that worked together to bring you to where you are today. These things are the "Keys" to our success.

The theme for the ICRA annual conference is "Keys" to Success. Education is a very important "Key" to success. The Program Committee is aware and working to provide four hours in staging and/or anatomy to help you meet the new NCRA mandatory education requirement.

I had the pleasure of hearing Louanne Currence speak at the Ohio/Indiana regional meeting. I'm thrilled to announce that Louanne has agreed to speak at our fall conference. If you have a topic of interest or would like to refer a speaker, please contact me, your input would be greatly appreciated.

Unfortunately, our original venue will be closed for renovations during the timeframe of our fall conference. So your president, Claudia Jenkins, and I went to the BIG CITY with one goal in mind ...find a new location for the ICRA fall conference. We found three locations to look at; they were all lovely, clean and would meet our needs. The hotels were more convenient, with everything under one roof and it would have been easier for the board (less hassle and only one contract). As we drove back across the city to our starting point we discussed the pros and cons; all venues were nice, all prepared food on site, the hotels were almost twice the cost of Primo and required a large gratuity plus an additional hotel tax. Taking all these factors into consideration, we decided that traveling to an outside hotel was in the best interest of the association. The conference will be at Primo Conference Center, Indianapolis Southside <http://www.primobanquet.com/directions.aspx> on November 9-10th. Please mark your calendars and watch for more information on our website.

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Public Relations-LeAnn Capps, BA, CTR

Just a reminder- please contact Public Relations if you know of any member that has lost a loved one from their immediate family. ICRA would like to reach out to them to show our genuine concern and support at that time.

As always, the Public Relations Committee welcomes any ideas and articles that you would like to place in the Indiana Abstract in the future. You do not have to be a board member to submit articles. If you have an idea, **BRING IT ON!**

Reminder:



**2017 National Cancer Registrars Week**  
**Cancer Registrars: Putting the Pieces Together**  
**April 10-14, 2017**

Cancer registrars throughout the world will join their colleagues, fellow medical professionals, and community leaders to observe the 21st annual National Cancer Registrars Week (NCRW), April 10-14, 2017. The purpose of NCRW is to emphasize the important role cancer registrars play in capturing the data that informs cancer research, prevention, and treatment programs. The theme for 2017 is *Cancer Registrars: Putting the Pieces Together*.

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#### [Ways and Means- Joann Schultz, RHIT, CTR](#)

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I hope everyone is enjoying the mild winter, I certainly am. Thank you for your support of the Silent Auction & Dining to Donate in conjunction with the Fall Conference. Congratulations to Emily Freeman, CTR, St. Francis Cancer Center Indianapolis, the winner of the NCRA scholarship.

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#### [By-Laws-Camille Foley, RHIT, CTR](#)

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The By-Laws Committee is responsible for ensuring that the Annual Business Meeting and the Board of Directors Meetings are conducted according to the ICRA By-Laws. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised governs ICRA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with our By-Laws, special rules of order, and any standing rules ICRA may adopt. Amendments to the By-Laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or individual voting members.

This committee serves as the ad hoc Ethics Committee as needed. The committee is also available to assist the president or other members of the Board of Directors.

**Indiana Cancer Registrars Association  
Membership Application  
2017 – 2018**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print or type information you would prefer to have on the ICRA Website Membership Directory:**

Check one:      Employer Address          Home Address   

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print or type information you would prefer ICRA to use for Correspondence:**

Check one:      Employer Address          Home Address   

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Educational background:     RHIT     CTR     LPN     RN     RHIA

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years in Registry field \_\_\_\_\_ Current position \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a:     Current Member     Associate     **Re-Instated Member\*\***     New Member of ICRA?  
Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Active (\$25)     Re-Instated\*\* (\$35)     Associate (\$20)     Student\* (\$10)

\*A person who is enrolled in a college level curriculum and is interested in the purpose of ICRA and is not actively employed in a cancer registry.

**\*\*A former member whose membership has been forfeited by non-payment of dues and new application is being submitted.**

**Would you be interested in serving on a Committee?     Yes     No**

**Would you allow your name and work address to be released to vendors upon request?     yes     No**

Please make your check payable to Indiana Cancer Registrars Association or ICRA and mail to:

Martha A. Hill, CTR

ICRA Membership Chairperson

5096 South County Road 740 West

Medora, IN 47260

Applicant's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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