

Facts about the Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center

Who is required to report cancer cases?

Health care facilities including hospitals, pathology laboratories, ambulatory surgery centers, free standing cancer clinics and treatment centers, long-term care facilities and physician offices are required by law to provide basic information about cancer cases diagnosed and/or treated in Missouri to the Missouri Cancer Registry (192.650-192.657 RSMo).

How is confidentiality handled?

The Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center maintains strict confidentiality. According to HIPAA privacy regulations, the MCR-ARC is a public health authority authorized by law to collect and receive information for the purpose of preventing and controlling disease, injury or disability.

A covered entity such as a hospital or physician's office can disclose information to the MCR-ARC without specific individual informed consent. However, the identities of patients or specific facilities/physicians are not released by the MCR-ARC without written consent from the individual or facility/physician.

Without greater involvement of non-hospital sources, case completeness and data quality will suffer

MCR-ARC is supported in part by a cooperative agreement between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) (#U58/000820-05) and a Surveillance Contract between DHSS and the University of Missouri

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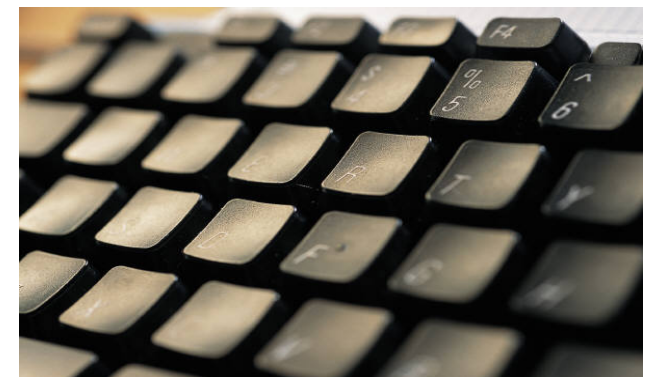


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Improving Cancer Reporting Utilizing Electronic Health Records

The Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center



<http://mcr.umh.edu>



Increasing Cancer Reporting through the use of EHRs

The Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center (MCR-ARC) and the Missouri Health Information Technology Assistance Center (MO HIT) are working together to improve cancer reporting. The goal of the project is to identify primary care and specialty physician offices where electronic health records (EHRs) can be used to facilitate the reporting of cancer data as required by Missouri law.

Due to changes in medical practice and health care delivery, an increasing number of cancer cases are being diagnosed and treated outside the hospital setting. As these cases are under-reported, we need greater involvement from non-hospital sources in reporting their cancer data electronically to MCR-ARC.

To assist you in reporting cancer data, MCR-ARC offers the following services:

- Consult with your EHR software vendor on required data fields for cancer reporting
- Evaluate tools for secure transfer of the EHR cancer reporting data
- Conduct education and training for office staff on the use of EHRs to facilitate the collection of required data elements for cancer reporting
- Conduct validation of content and format of cancer data received from EHRs into cancer database
- Develop and implement quality control procedures regarding cancer reporting
- Design and conduct process and outcome cancer reporting evaluations
- Monitor transfer, receipt and processing of cancer reporting data

Care will be taken to ensure that integration efforts comply with legal and regulatory requirements for the protection of patient privacy

How are data from the Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center used?

Cancer reporting data are used to:

- Study the burden of cancer in Missouri populations
- Conduct epidemiological and clinical research studies
- Look at trends in cancer incidence by stage at diagnosis, age, race/ethnicity, etc.
- Disseminate information for planning and early detection programs
- Respond to state and local questions and concerns about cancer
- Provide information to legislators, health professionals and the public

