Staff: The MCR-ARC boasts a well-trained and experienced staff that includes Certified Tumor Registrars with hospital-based registry experience. Staff members are encouraged to attend state, regional and national meetings to maintain an acceptable level of expertise.

3 Training: For non-hospital healthcare, the MCR-ARC provides one-on-one training (via phone or email) as well as webinars. For more information, please call 1-866-240-8809.

Partnerships: In 1999, the Missouri Department of Health contracted with the University of Missouri to house, and collaborate with MCR and the Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). This partnership with the University has made expanded capabilities possible and increased opportunities for involvement in research. In early 2011, to better reflect its activities, MCR became the Missouri Cancer Registry and Research Center (MCR-ARC).

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Cancer Reporting in Missouri

Reporting of cancer cases by Missouri hospitals became mandatory in 1984 when the State General Assembly passed a bill to require inpatient reporting by hospitals. Due to changes in the health care delivery system, an expanded cancer reporting law was passed in 1999 (RSMo 192.650-192.657 and CSR 70-21.010). This law requires that pathology laboratories, ambulatory surgery centers, free-standing cancer clinics and treatment centers, physicians and LTCFs also report cancer cases.

By law, all of the more than 1200 long-term care facilities are required to report cases of cancer. However, based on analysis of death clearance data, we anticipate the majority of LTCF cancer cases will be residents of skilled nursing facilities. We realize that some facilities will seldom, if ever have cases to report.

Initiating Cancer Reporting

In order to assist you in reporting, MCR-ARC has made available for download, the LTCF manual and reporting forms which can be found on our website at http://mcr.umr.edu under ‘Cancer Reporting’ – ‘Non-hospital.’

Nursing home staff may also call a special toll-free number (866-240-8809) for questions or additional assistance in establishing cancer-reporting policies and procedures.

How do we Know which Patients to Report?

To comply with the requirements of the law, facilities must report:

- A patient diagnosed with cancer while residing in that institution
- A patient receiving cancer-directed treatment (radiation, chemotherapy, etc.) while residing in that institution
- A patient diagnosed with a recurrence while residing at that facility
- Patients identified through the death clearance process

In addition, facilities may voluntarily report:

- Upon admission, a patient previously diagnosed with cancer but receiving no treatment, even though there is active disease
- Upon death, a patient with cancer or a history of cancer not reported on the basis of the mandatory requirements