Hello to Everyone!

As I start this update, it is a beautiful fall afternoon. There are several golden trees across the street that have been particularly gorgeous this year. Doesn't quite seem like fall except for the changing trees. It has been a little hard to get into the Christmas shopping mood when the weather is so warm...guess the shopping will wait until December.

Our newsletter/update has a new look thanks to Shari El-Shoubasi. Shari is the coordinator for a pilot physician reporting project and an MS Publisher expert so we are taking advantage of her skills. Hope you enjoy the new look.

Talk to you next month...

Sue

New Central Registry Software Update

The software has been loaded, staff have been trained and we are live with Precis Central. But...we are still on a very steep learning curve and our workflow is in transition. We will be a little slow with loading and reviewing data until we have conquered the software and revised our procedures. Please be patient and we will get back up to speed as soon as possible. Cate has been an excellent resource during this process. We all went to the training but she seemed to retain more of the information. Of course, she had used Precis software previously but the central version is much different.

NEW! FORDS Errata 2005 Posted Online

The CoC has posted an errata for FORDS: Revised for 2004 online at

http://www.facs.org/cancer/coc/fordsmanual.html

These changes will be effective for cases diagnosed on or after January 1, 2006. If you purchase, or have purchased, a hard copy of the FORDS manual, please download the page corrections made since the publication's release in January 2004. For easy page replacement, the errata files are ready to be printed double-sided on three-hole punched paper. The full Manual can be downloaded from the Cancer Programs page of the Web site or a hard copy (without errata) can be ordered for $30 from the College's publications Web site at


The most notable changes for the Errata 2005 include:

Primary Payer at Diagnosis*
The Allowable Values, Codes, and Definitions have been revised for consistency with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) usage. (Pages 67 and 68)

Comorbidities and Complications #7, #8, #9, and #10
These four data items have been added to expand information collected about secondary diagnoses present at diagnosis. (Pages 69-75D)

Systemic/Surgery Sequence
This data item has been added to more precisely

* An asterisk indicates a change on this page.
evaluate the timing of delivery of treatment to a patient. It documents the sequence of systemic therapy and surgical procedures given as part of the first course of treatment. (Pages 183A-183)

Type of First Recurrence
The Instructions for Coding have been expanded to clarify that follow-up of cases for recurrence should continue until the first recurrence is recorded following a disease-free period, even if that is long after first course treatment is complete. (Page 197)

NOTICE: To properly view and print the "highlighted" version of the Errata and the Complete Manual, you must have the most recent version of Adobe Acrobat.

*For those who have already downloaded the errata pages, please note that the Label for Code 35 in this data item was revised on October 31, 2005 to read: "Medicaid–Administered through a Managed Care Plan."

Collaborative Staging News


Personnel

We have a new CTR starting on December 1, 2005. Linda Boyce, CTR, has agreed to join the MCR staff as part of the QA unit. Linda is currently a registrar at Boone Hospital Center here in Columbia.

Our OSSIV, Audra, resigned in early October to take a position closer to home. This is a casualty of the high gas prices. We are currently interviewing for her replacement.

Timeliness

If you submit data monthly, cases diagnosed in April 2005 are due by November 15th.

If you submit data quarterly, cases diagnosed in April, May, & June are due by January 15th.

I am still taking care of the timeliness until the functions can be given to our Office Support Staff. Many of the duties are clerical such as tracking and sending out non-compliance notices and letters, but I will still be in charge of making decisions regarding delinquent letters to supervisors and administrators.

PLEASE SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING TIMELINESS TO MY EMAIL ADDRESS (vests@health.missouri.edu) UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. If you send an email to Audra, it will bounce back.
We have added a link to the Missouri Hospital Association hospital list. This list provides the main hospital telephone number and a link to the hospital website. This addition is the result of a request from a registrar. We are open to suggestions on other links/items that you would like to see added to the website. Just send me or Nancy Cole (colen@health.missouri.edu) an email.