

Introduction

The VA Automated Tumor Registry for Oncology is written in standard M and VA FileMan. This package has four unique files: the Site-Group for Oncology file, the AJCC Staging Groups file, and the ICDO Topography, and ICDO Morphology files. These files are tied together to create site-specific topography, morphology, and extent of disease coding as defined in the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Reporting (SEER) Program, the American College of Surgeons (ACOS) cancer-directed codes, and the conventions of the AJCC TNM coding schemes. Once a general site group is selected, all related relevant codes are available as on-line help to the user, reducing the possibility of coding errors.

Additional features include automatic casefinding that identifies patients diagnosed with malignancies and the ability to document follow-up (required annually by the ACOS) and track delinquent follow-up cases.

Users may generate a number of reports for running the registry by using the Registry Lists, Annual Reports, and Statistical Reports modules.

Implementation and Maintenance

Implementation

Oncology Namespace

The namespace ONC is assigned to all menus and options of Tumor Registry. All Oncology routines and globals start with these characters.

All Oncology compiled template routines begin with the ONCO namespace, followed by the X*, Y*, and W* characters.

File Numbering

Oncology is assigned Files #160 through #160.99 and files #164 through #169.99.

Global

Oncology uses the ^ONCO global to store all files. Journalling is recommended on this global.

Routines

Routine mapping is not necessary for any Oncology routines.

Security Keys

There are no security keys used in the Oncology package.

Option Delegation

Give the Oncology Site Manager Menu [ONCO #SITE MANAGER MENU] to the IRM staff or package ADPAC.

Give the DHCP Tumor Registry menu [ONCO * TUMOR REGISTRY MENU] to Tumor Registry users.

Site Parameters

The Define Tumor Registry Parameters [ONCO UTIL-SITE PARAMETERS] option is located under the user's Utility Options [ONCO UTIL MENU] within the DHCP Tumor Registry menu [ONCO *TUMOR REGISTRY MENU]. The option can be populated by the Tumor Registrars. (See the user manual for details.)

Maintenance

Oncology Site Manager Menu

The Oncology Site Manager Menu option should be assigned to the IRM specialist responsible for Oncology. Below is a description of each of the menu's functions:

DHCP Tumor Registry [ONCO*TUMOR REGISTRY MENU]

This is the main menu of the Oncology Tumor Registry module. At present it has seven menu items consisting of the functions of the Tumor Registry. These are Suspense, Abstracting, Lists, Follow-up, Annual Reporting, Statistics, and Utilities.

Retrieve Internal Patient Pointers [ONCO #SITE-INTERNAL POINTERS]

This is a utility program to retrieve internal pointers for an entry in the Oncology Patient file (#160). Using the variable pointer in Oncology Patient and the backwards pointers in the Oncology Primary file (#165.5) to Oncology Patient, this option will repair all missing pointers upon selection of an entry in Oncology Patient.

Reindex Data Files (160, 165.5, 165) [ONCO #SITE-REINDEX DATA FILES]

This re-indexes all cross-references for Oncology data files (Oncology Patient #160, Oncology Contact #165, and Oncology Primary #165.5) with one selection.

Correct Next Follow-Up for Expired Patients [ONCO #SITE-FIX EXP PAT F/U]

This option searches all FOLLOW-UP multiples (#400) on the Oncology Patient file (#160) looking for expired patients. It then makes sure that the NEXT FOLLOW-UP METHOD sub-field (#6) is set to "9" (not followed).

Recompute AJCC TNM Staging [ONCO #SITE-RESTAGE PRIMARY]

This option is no longer available.

Purge Patient Records with No Suspense/Primaries [ONCO #SITE-PURGE SUSPENSE]

This option drives through the Oncology Patient file (#160) looking for records that have no suspense date and no associated primaries. Upon confirmation from the user, it deletes these records from the file.

Create a report to preview ACOS output [ONCO #SITE-CREATE ACOS REPORT]

This is a report which allows the tumor registrar to preview the contents of the specified accessions intended for output to the ACOS disk. This option is independent of the disk capture function but uses the precise database selection criteria. This option is also found under the Utility Options.

Report of assessments requiring additional input [ONCO #SITE ERROR REPORT]

This is a report for the tumor registrar to examine the specified accession of tumors for completeness in terms of ACOS required fields. Only accessions which have no data in the required field set will be listed with the fields which have the discrepancy. This option is also found under the Utility Options.

Files

There are three (3) Oncology files which contain data relevant to the cancer patient: the Oncology Patient file (#160), the Oncology Primary file (#165.5), and the Oncology Contact file (#165). These are used extensively in the Annual and Statistical Reports menus.

The Oncology Patient file is a variable pointer file, which points to both the VISTA Patient file (#2) and the Referral Patient file (#67) (for deceased patients). It contains data relative to the patient's demographics. The data does not change with each cancer. Fields that have ACOS specific codes, such as race, ethnicity, and place of birth, are converted and stored in this file. Patient history relevant to cancer (e.g., alcohol and tobacco, occupation, and family cancer history), as well as follow-up history, reside in this file.

The Oncology Primary file, or "cancer-case" file, contains all of the cancer cases in the registry. There is a backwards pointer to the Oncology Patient file with a many-to-one relationship between cancers and patient. Data elements in this file uniquely define the tumor, the extent of disease, first course of treatment accorded, and all recurrence information. Pointers to the Oncology coding data files containing all codes pertinent to the definition of the tumor are widely used.

The Oncology Contact file holds all patient contact information and is used in conjunction with the Follow-up Form Letter file and the Oncology Site Parameters file to produce professional quality letters on either a dot matrix or laser printer.

File Descriptions

File Name	Number	Description
ONCOLOGY PATIENT	160	Demographic and follow-up data concerning Oncology patients is stored in this file. (Tumor-related data is stored in the Primary file). Data is NOT exported with this file. The file is populated on site.
ONCOLOGY SITE PARAMETERS	160.1	This file contains fields unique to the facility. They are used in follow-up and enable ACOS reporting. Data is input at the facility by the user and should be the first file that is populated before any other data is collected.
TYPE OF RECURRENCE	160.12	This file contains types of recurrence. The term "recurrence" defines the return or reappearance of the cancer after a disease-free intermission or remission.

NON CANCER-DIRECTED SURGERY	160.14	This file contains surgical procedures that are performed to diagnose/stage disease (exploratory) or relieve symptoms (palliative).
ACOS STATE AT DIAGNOSIS	160.15	This file contains the states and Canadian provinces used for the patient's usual residence when the tumor was diagnosed and treated.
ONCOLOGY DATA EXTRACT FORMAT	160.16	This file contains the Oncology Data Extract Formats.
ONCOLOGY PCE EXTRACT FORMAT	160.17	This file contains the Oncology PCE Extract Formats.
FACILITY	160.19	This file contains 5000+ medical locations (American College of Surgeons identification number) nationwide.
FORMS/INSTRUCTIONS	160.2	This file contains forms used by the Tumor Registry as well as on-line instructions for procedures that must be followed such as making a disk for ACOS.
PRIMARY PAYOR AT DIAGNOSIS	160.3	This file contains the patients' primary payor/insurance carriers at the time of initial diagnosis and/or treatment. The file is populated at the site.
RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY	160.4	This file contains types of reconstructive surgery. Reconstructive surgery reconstructs, restores, or improves the shape and appearance or function of body structures that are missing, defective, damaged or misshapen by cancer or cancer-directed therapies. Reconstruction may be a part of the first course of therapy or may be done after the first course is completed.
SURGICAL APPROACH	160.6	This file contains surgical approaches. The data is used to record information on the increasing use of less invasive procedures. The data will make possible a comparative analysis of traditional and laparoscopic approaches.
ICDO TOPOGRAPHY	164	This file contains the Complete ICDO-2 Topography, with site specific coding for Extent

of Disease and AJCC Staging. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.

ICDO-SITES	164.08	This file contains the parent ICDO-2 Groups for the ICDO-2 Topography codes. It is pointed to by File #164, providing a simple list of code groups.
ICDO MORPHOLOGY ICDO-2	164.1	This file contains the World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases-Oncology codes including /2's. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.
ICDO SITE GROUPS FOR REPORTING	164.14	This file, pointed to by the ICDO-SITES file (#164.08), facilitates the production of the Annual Registry Summary Report. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.
TUMOR MARKERS	164.15	This file contains the set of codes used by the <i>ACOS Commission on Cancer Data Acquisition Manual</i> to record the use of tumor markers in tracking neoplasms of the breast. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.
SITE-GROUP FOR ONCOLOGY	164.2	This file contains major site-groups for the Oncology package. It contains all the ACOS Site-Specific Surgery Codes. In addition, it also contains the SEER Extension and Lymph node coding - sharing that function with File #164. The "F" cross-reference of the TOPOGRAPHY field (#.01) of the TOPOGRAPHY multiple (#10) sets an index under ^ONCO(164.2,"F"). An index under ^ONCO(164.2,"G") is set by both the "G" cross-reference of the ICDO-1 TOPOGRAPHY field (#.02) of the TOPOGRAPHY multiple (#10), and by the "AC" cross-reference of the TOPOGRAPHY field (#.01) of the TOPOGRAPHY multiple (#10) of the ICDO-1 Site For Oncology file (#169.2).
OTHER STAGING FOR ONCOLOGY	164.3	This file contains other methods of staging for particular sites. Data comes with the file and will overwrite data in field.

AJCC STAGING GROUPS	164.33	This file contains the AJCC Staging Groups and the TNM coding schema. This file should not be modified.
COMMON CANCERS	164.4	This file contains a list of common cancers (data file).
PRIMARY CANCER STATUS CODE	164.42	This file contains a superset of the DAM Cancer Status Codes for use in identifying tumor status at follow-up on the Oncology Primary file (#165.5). The extended codes (4-7) help the registrar to record more completely the overall cancer status of an expired patient. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file. This file is referenced directly by routine ONCOCOFA.
GRADE	164.43	This file contains codes used to record the grade of tumor in the GRADE field (#24) of the Oncology Primary file (#165.5). This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.
AJCC STAGE GROUP	164.45	This file contains transforms for converting AJCC stage data from internal to external format and vice versa. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file. This file is referenced directly by routine ONCOTNS.
RACE CODE FOR ONCOLOGY	164.46	This file contains codes used to record the patient's race in the RACE field (#8) of the Oncology Patient file (#160). The codes are derived from the ACOS Data Acquisition Manual. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.
PATIENT CANCER STATUS CODE	164.48	This file contains the codes used by the <i>ACOS Data Acquisition Manual</i> for identifying patient cancer status. This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not recommended that sites modify this file.
SEER CODE SET	164.5	This file contains extension, lymph node, and surgery codes from the SEER Extent of Disease

Codes and Coding Instructions. Each set of codes can be linked to code sets from future editions. This file is referenced directly by routines ONCODEL (for extension and lymph node codes) and ONCODSR (for surgery codes). This file comes with data, which overwrite the site's data. It is not advised that sites modify this file.

TYPE OF STAGING SYSTEM (PEDIATRIC)	164.6	The Commission requires staging of pediatric patients using AJCC or the staging criteria of the pediatric intergroup studies and the pediatric cooperative groups.
RADIATION TREATMENT VOLUME	164.7	This file contains the radiation treatment volume codes.
RADIATION COMPLETION STATUS	164.8	This file contains radiation completion statuses.
ONCOLOGY CONTACT	165	This file contains Oncology contacts. It is populated by the user and, in some part, automatically by the Follow-up options. It is used only for patient follow-up.
FOLLOW-UP FORM LETTER	165.1	This file contains the form letters used for Oncology/Tumor Registry follow-up. These are linked by type to the Contact file.
GEOCODES	165.2	This file contains codes for states of the United States and foreign countries.
ONCOLOGY PRIMARY	165.5	Tumor-related data for Oncology patients is stored in this file. (Demographic and follow-up data is in the Oncology Patient file). This file is populated in the field by using the abstracting options.
COMPUTED PRIMARY	165.59	This file is tied to the Oncology Primary file (Dinumed to .01 field) and contains computed fields only. This can be used by IRM to add computed fields to the file for use in the statistical options for cross-tabulation routines.
REGIONAL TREATMENT MODALITY	166.13	This file contains regional treatment modalities used to identify the dominant modality of therapy delivered to the primary volume of interest.

ONCOLOGY SUBSITE	166.3	This file supports the 1996 Patient Care Evaluation of Soft Tissue Sarcoma.
ICDO-1 TOPOGRAPHY	169	This ICDO-1 Topography data file contains old ICDO codes version 1, 1976.
ICDO-1 SITES	169.08	This is the ICDO-Site file in use prior to Jan 1992, pointed to by the Topography file.
ICDO-1 MORPHOLOGY	169.1	The ICDO-1 Morphology file (version 1, 1976) is pointed to by File #164.1
ICDO-1 SITE FOR ONCOLOGY	169.2	Copy of old Site file needed to maintain pointer integrity. New file with data, but stripped of all coding schemes no longer necessary.
ONCOLOGY PACKAGE STATUS	169.99	This file allows the storage of the status of the package under control of the programmer: version installed, beginning and ending of the installation, with the generation of a mail-message to the installer, and supporting ISC the installation information.

Package Default Definition

FILE #	NAME	UP DATE DD	SEND SEC. CODE	DATA COMES W/FILE	SITE DATA	RSLV PTS	USER OVER RIDE
160	ONCOLOGY PATIENT	YES	YES	NO			
160.1	ONCOLOGY SITE PARAMETERS	YES	YES	NO			
160.12	TYPE OF RECURRENCE	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.14	NON CANCER-DIRECTED SURGERY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.15	ACOS STATE AT DIAGNOSIS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.16	ONCOLOGY DATA EXTRACT FORMAT	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.17	ONCOLOGY PCE EXTRACT FORMAT	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.19	FACILITY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.2	FORMS/INSTRUCTIONS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.3	PRIMARY PAYOR AT DIAGNOSIS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.4	RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
160.6	SURGICAL APPROACH	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164	ICDO TOPOGRAPHY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.08	ICDO-SITES	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.1	ICDO MORPHOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.14	ICDO SITE GROUPS FOR REPORTING	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.15	TUMOR MARKERS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.2	SITE-GROUP FOR ONCOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.3	OTHER STAGING FOR ONCOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.33	AJCC STAGING GROUPS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.4	COMMON CANCERS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.42	PRIMARY CANCER STATUS CODE	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.43	GRADE	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.45	AJCC STAGE GROUP	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.46	RACE CODE FOR ONCOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.48	PATIENT CANCER STATUS CODE	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.5	SEER CODE SET	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.6	TYPE OF STAGING SYSTEM (PEDIATRIC)	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.7	RADIATION TREATMENT VOLUME	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
164.8	RADIATION COMPLETION STATUS	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
165	ONCOLOGY CONTACT	YES	YES	NO			
165.1	FOLLOW-UP FORM LETTER	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
165.2	GEOCODES	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
165.5	ONCOLOGY PRIMARY	YES	YES	NO			
165.59	COMPUTED PRIMARY	YES	YES	NO			
166.13	REGIONAL TREATMENT MODALITY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
166.3	ONCOLOGY SUBSITE	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
169	ICDO-1 TOPOGRAPHY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
169.08	ICDO-1 SITES	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
169.1	ICDO-1 MORPHOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
169.2	ICDO-1 SITE FOR ONCOLOGY	YES	YES	YES	OVER	YES	NO
169.99	ONCOLOGY PACKAGE STATUS	YES	YES	NO			

Routines

The user can get a listing of the routines by using the First Line Routine Print option located in the Routine Tools menu.

Exported Options

Site Manager Menu

- DHCP Tumor Registry ...
 - Casefinding/Suspense ...
 - Abstracting/Printing ...
 - Follow-up Functions ...
 - Registry Lists ...
 - Annual Reports ...
 - Statistical Reports ...
 - Utility Options ...
- Retrieve Internal Patient Pointers
- Reindex Data Files (160,165.5,165)
- Correct Next Follow-Up for Expired Patients
- Recompute AJCC TNM Staging
- Purge Patient Records with No Suspense/Primaries
- Create a report to preview ACOS output
- Report of accessions requiring additional input

Archiving and Purging

Oncology/Cancer data should be retained on-line, in order to enable long term survival studies. Therefore, there are no provisions for purging this data. However, there is purging of Contact file entries for a deceased patient available to sites, to be used at their discretion.

Callable Routines

There are no callable routines for this package.

External Relations

Oncology requires VA FileMan V. 21 (or later) and VA Kernel V. 8.0 (or later) and points to the following files:

- Patient #2
- Institution #4
- County (#5.1)
- ZIP Code (#5.11)
- Referral Patient #67
- Topography Field #61
- Morphology Field #61.1
- Occupation Field #61.6
- Rad/Nuc Med Procedures #71
- ICD Diagnosis #80
- New Person (#200)

DBIA Subscriber Package Agreements

Obtain a list of agreements using the Print ACTIVE by Subscribing Package option on FORUM.

DBIA Custodial Package Agreements

There are no DBIA custodial package agreements.

Internal Relations

There are no options that cannot function independently.

Package-Wide Variables

There are no package-wide variables.

Software Product Security

Security Management

There are legal issues concerning the dispensing of data regarding veterans to the State and other requesting organizations. It is important for each site to be aware of the privacy laws.

No additional licenses are necessary to run the software.

Privacy Act Statement

In accordance with Office of Personnel Management and VA policies, this information is to be furnished for use only as authorized. It will not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. Any output must be secured in a storage system adequate to insure against disclosure to unauthorized parties. Disposal will be by burning, shredding, or other treatment to destroy their legibility.

Security Features

- a. Mail groups and alerts.

There are no mail groups or alerts used in this package.

- b. Remote systems.

The application does not transmit data to any remote system/facility database at this time.

- c. Archiving/Purging.

Oncology/Cancer data should be retained on-line, in order to enable long term survival studies. Therefore, there are no provisions for purging this data. However, there is purging of Contact file entries for a deceased patient available to sites, to be used at their discretion.

- d. Contingency Planning.

It is the responsibility of the using service to develop a local contingency plan to be used in the event of application problems.

- e. Interfacing.

No specialized (non VA) interfaces are used or required by the application.

- f. Electronic signatures.

Electronic signatures are not used by the application.

g. Menus.

There are no options of special note for the Information Security Officers (ISO's) to view.

h. Security Keys.

There are no Security Keys in this application.

i. File Security.

NUMBER	NAME	GLOBAL NAME	DD ACC	RD ACC	WR ACC	DEL ACC	LAY ACC	AUD ACC
160	ONCOLOGY PATIENT	^ONCO(160,						
160.1	ONCOLOGY SITE PARAMETERS	^ONCO(160.1,						
160.12	TYPE OF RECURRENCE	^ONCO(160.12,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.14	NON CANCER-DIRECTED SURGERY	^ONCO(160.14,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.15	ACOS STATE AT DIAGNOSIS	^ONCO(160.15,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.16	ONCOLOGY DATA EXTRACT FORMAT	^ONCO(160.16,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.17	ONCOLOGY PCE EXTRACT FORMAT	^ONCO(160.17,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.19	FACILITY	^ONCO(160.19,	@					@
160.2	FORMS/INSTRUCTIONS	^ONCO(160.2,						
160.3	PRIMARY PAYOR AT DIAGNOSIS	^ONCO(160.3,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.4	RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY	^ONCO(160.4,	@	@	@	@	@	@
160.6	SURGICAL APPROACH	^ONCO(160.6,	@	@	@	@	@	
164	ICDO TOPOGRAPHY	^ONCO(164,						
164.08	ICDO-SITES	^ONCO(164.08,						
164.1	ICDO MORPHOLOGY	^ONCO(164.1,						
164.14	ICDO SITE GROUPS FOR REPORTING	^ONCO(164.14,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.15	TUMOR MARKERS	^ONCO(164.15,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.2	SITE-GROUP FOR ONCOLOGY	^ONCO(164.2,						
164.3	OTHER STAGING FOR ONCOLOGY	^ONCO(164.3,						
164.33	AJCC STAGING GROUPS	^ONCO(164.33,						
164.4	COMMON CANCERS	^ONCO(164.4,						
164.42	PRIMARY CANCER STATUS CODE	^ONCO(164.42,	@					
164.43	GRADE	^ONCO(164.43,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.45	AJCC STAGE GROUP	^ONCO(164.45,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.46	RACE CODE FOR ONCOLOGY	^ONCO(164.46,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.48	PATIENT CANCER STATUS CODE	^ONCO(164.48,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.5	SEER CODE SET	^ONCO(164.5,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.6	TYPE OF STAGING SYSTEM (PEDIATRIC)	^ONCO(164.6,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.7	RADIATION TREATMENT VOLUME	^ONCO(164.7,	@	@	@	@	@	@
164.8	RADIATION COMPLETION STATUS	^ONCO(164.8,	@	@	@	@	@	@
165	ONCOLOGY CONTACT	^ONCO(165,						
165.1	FOLLOW-UP FORM LETTER	^ONCO(165.1,						
165.2	GEOCODES	^ONCO(165.2,						
165.5	ONCOLOGY PRIMARY	^ONCO(165.5,						

165.59	COMPUTED PRIMARY	^ONCO(165.59,	@	@	@	@	@	@
166.13	REGIONAL TREATMENT MODALITY	^ONCO(166.13,	@	@	@	@	@	@
166.3	ONCOLOGY SUBSITE	^ONCO(166.3,	@	@	@	@	@	@
169	ICDO-1 TOPOGRAPHY	^ONCO(169,						
169.08	ICDO-1 SITES	^ONCO(169.08,						
169.1	ICDO-1 MORPHOLOGY	^ONCO(169.1,						
169.2	ICDO-1 SITE FOR ONCOLOGY	^ONCO(169.2,						
169.99	ONCOLOGY PACKAGE STATUS	^ONCO(169.99,	@	@	@	@	@	@

j. References.

There are several reference materials used for this package:

1. Registry Operations and Data Standards (ROADS) Manual
2. AJCC Cancer Staging Manual
3. SEER Extent of Disease Codes and Coding Instructions
4. International Classification of Diseases for Oncology

k. Official Policies.

There are no special official policies for this package.

Glossary

Abstract	A summary of pertinent information about the patient, the cancer, the treatment, and outcome. To compile the essential data on a case.
Accession Register	An annual, sequential listing of all cases entered into the registry.
Accession number	A number unique to the patient which identifies the patient by the year diagnosed and in the order he was identified by the registry.
Accession Year	The year in which the patient was first seen at the reporting institution for the primary.
ACoS	American College of Surgeons.
ACoS number	A number assigned to facilities by the American College of Surgeons.
ADPAC	Designated individual responsible for user-level management and maintenance of an application package such as Oncology.
AJCC	American Joint Commission on Cancer.
Analytic case	A case which was diagnosed at your facility or cases in which all or part of the first course of therapy was given at your facility after your reference date.
Automatic case finding	The electronic capture of cases meeting the defined criteria.
BRM	Biological Response Modifier. This is a generic term given to all chemical or biological agents which alter the immune system or the defense mechanism.
Case finding	A systematic method of locating all eligible cases.
Central Registry Number	The registry number assigned by the state central registry where applicable.
Device	As used in this document, a printer or computer screen to which a display/report is sent.
ERA	Estrogen Receptor Assay is a tumor marker for breast cancer.
Gleason's Grade	A system for assigning differentiation scores to prostate tissue specimens. The higher the pattern score, the worse the prognosis.

ICD-O	International Classification of Diseases for Oncology.
ICD-9 CM	International Classification of Diseases, Clinical Modification, 9 th Revision. Used to code death information.
Institution ID Number	The registry number assigned by the American College of Surgeons. It is used to define the registry in the ACoS Call for Data.
LTF	Lost to Follow-up. This condition occurs when no contact has been made in over 15 months.
Non-Analytic case	A case involving a patient who was diagnosed elsewhere and treated elsewhere, or was diagnosed and treated prior to the reference date at your facility. These patients are excluded from the survival statistics.
PRA	Progesterone Receptor Assay is a tumor marker for breast cancer.
Primary	Refers to a specific anatomical site with malignancy.
PTF	Patient Treatment File.
Reference date	Starting date after which all cases are entered into the registry. It is established as January 1 of a given year.
SEER	Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Program.
Sequence number	A number which relates to the independent primary malignancies that occur in the same individual.
State Hospital Number	The number assigned by the state to your medical center.
Template	A computerized filter created to screen information and later print the information in a specific format.
Tumor marker	Medical laboratory examinations of material that may be indicative of presence of malignancy.
VA FileMan	The VA file management program used to maintain, access, and manipulate data in a file.
Suspense, being in	Having a date in the Suspense Date field in the Oncology Patient file #160. Cases remain in suspense until they are accessioned for abstracting or manually deleted.

VISTA

Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture.



ONCOLOGY
TECHNICAL MANUAL AND PACKAGE
SECURITY GUIDE

Version 2.11

June 1999

Department of Veterans Affairs
VISTA Technical Services

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