



## Iowa Cancer Registry

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### MEMORANDUM

#### Cost Reimbursement for Abstracting Services at Hospitals with Commission on Cancer Accreditation July 1, 2019

Since 1982, cancer has been a reportable disease in Iowa. Each occurrence of a reportable cancer that is diagnosed or treated in an Iowa resident or occurs in a nonresident who is diagnosed or treated in an Iowa facility shall be reported to the Iowa Cancer Registry (ICR)/State Health Registry of Iowa (SHRI), administered by the Department of Epidemiology of the College of Public Health at the University of Iowa as authorized in the Iowa Administrative Code in Chapter 1, section 641 – 1.4(139A). A reportable cancer means those cancers included in the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program.

The National Cancer Institute provides the majority of funding for ICR/SHRI operations, and issued a new 10-year contract with ICR/SHRI in 2018. This contract specified that NCI funds cannot be used by ICR/SHRI to abstract cases from Commission on Cancer (CoC) accredited facilities since the CoC requires that accredited facilities have their own hospital tumor registries. Consequently, the funding allocated to the ICR/SHRI for the next several years only included staffing and resources associated with abstracting cancer information from the hospitals in Iowa that were not CoC accredited at the time the contract was negotiated. Subsequently, any hospital with CoC accreditation as of July 1, 2019 or later will be required to employ or contract with registrars to report cancer data to the ICR/SHRI on their behalf, regardless of whether or not the hospital maintains CoC accreditation. Hospitals with CoC accreditation as of July 1, 2019 (regardless of maintenance of CoC accreditation) who do not employ or contract with registrars to report cancer data on their behalf will reimburse the ICR/SHRI for the costs of cancer data abstraction. The estimated average cost per abstract is \$50 and is subject to change based on current market rate.

The ICR/SHRI will continue to provide training resources and support to all abstractors in Iowa upon request, regardless of whether they are working in a CoC accredited hospital or not. For more information about resources for registrars, visit our website <https://shri.public-health.uiowa.edu/registrars/>.

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