James A Haley VA Hospital Cancer Registry
Radiation Oncology Department

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We work frequent telework schedules. The best way to reach the registry is to send a message via email and we will respond as soon as possible.

The Cancer Registry at James A. Haley Veterans Hospital is an information system/database for the collection, management, analysis and follow-up of data on all cancer cases at our facility. When a patient is diagnosed and/or treated with a malignancy, any central nervous system tumor (analytic tumors) and various other (non-analytic) tumors, we collect a detailed account of the diagnosis and treatment. These data are maintained in the Registry database. As a part of the cancer team, we provide local oncology data needed to support studies by individual physicians and the Cancer Committee for the quality improvement of patient care and outcomes. This promotes quality assessment reviews and audits for evaluation of patient care, monitoring trends in diagnostic and therapeutic techniques, and provides incidence and survival data for comparison to local, regional and national trends.

Yearly lifetime follow-up is provided on all analytic cases to follow the patient’s progress and record any subsequent treatment or recurrences. Continued surveillance assists in early detection of a recurrence for cancer patients who have received care in our cancer program.

The collected data is reported to our VA Central Office in Washington, D.C. for national statistics and soon, will be reported to the National Cancer Database at the Commission on Cancer as we are actively seeking that accreditation. These data are used by administration for planning and of allocation of hospital resources.

The Cancer Registry coordinates and tracks all multidisciplinary cancer conferences. This forum allows discussion of the standard of cancer care, best practices and treatment/research options for individual cases. This collaboration of cancer specialists includes surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists and radiologists and is an integral component of patient care management and outcomes. The discussion of the pre-treatment clinical staging of disease is an important factor to determine the best option for the patient’s treatment plan. At JAHVA we hold 7 specialty cancer conferences: Breast, Cutaneous (Skin), Gastrointestinal/General Surgery, Genitourinary, Head and Neck, Leukemia/Lymphoma and Thoracic (Lung). In a typical year we add about 1100 new cases to the database, hold 100 cancer conferences and present a case-mix of about 600+ cases to be discussed for treatment plan. The Cancer Committee set a goal to maintain an 80 percent attendance by physician specialists and that is achieved with few exceptions.
The Cancer Registry is responsible to the facility Cancer Committee, and the regulatory agency is the American College of Surgeons, Commission on Cancer. The Cancer Registry is also responsible to comply with the requirements of the Joint Commission on Cancer, and the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.