

Indiana Abstract

Volume 35 Issue 2

**Certified Tumor Registrar to
Oncology Data Specialist:
Same commitment to high
quality cancer data**

Emily Freeman, RHIT, ODS-C, ICRA President

Hello membership! I hope you all have had a great summer! Remember to submit your Distinguished member nominations before or on 9/30/24. We have a few nominations that have been submitted thus far and I know there are many members that would be deserving of this recognition. The nomination form was sent via email to membership.

Fall conference is right around the corner and we are excited to see you all “virtually ☺” this year! Mandi our program committee head has been working hard this year and our conference is packed with great educational sessions! Registration is open now!

Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns!

Emily.Freeman@franciscanalliance.org

Dani Deckard, BSW, ODS-C. ICRA Vice-President

Hey all,

It has been a year! I am so honored to have served with this board and see all the neat ideas come into play this year. This year has been a transition for me as I moved back into a Social Work role and am working in an inpatient psych facility with adolescent females. Going from working in my home to working on a unit with 8-10 girls everyday has been a welcomed challenge in my life. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Vice President this year and add another year on the ICRA board to my resume!! I highly encourage everyone to serve at least once during their career.

Mandi Kraushaar, RHIA, ODS-C Program Chair and President Elect

Summer is sadly coming to an end and kids are going back to school. On the bright side, the ICRA Board of Directors is working hard to put together a fall conference for everyone to look forward to! As a reminder, our fall conference this year will be a one-day virtual only conference on **November 8, 2024**.

We are excited to share with you our final conference agenda! We have gathered a wonderful variety of speakers to provide you with a full day of education and we are expecting approval from NCRA for 6.5 CEs for this one-day conference! We wanted to keep the cost affordable this year, as we know many people attended NCRA since this was held in Indianapolis this year. Therefore, the virtual conference will only cost \$50 for members. This comes out to less than \$8 per CE!

New this year we will be offering a package to purchase your membership dues for 2025 and your conference registration all together for a discounted rate of \$80. Remember, with your annual membership for ICRA, you gain additional CEs throughout the year with our virtual presentations. Plus, you can go ahead and get your 2025 membership dues paid for, so you don't have to remember to do it next year!

As President Elect, I am looking forward to an exciting new year in 2025 working with my Board of Directors to bring you updates, education and networking opportunities. If you have an interest in becoming more involved in ICRA or simply have ideas about what we could do better, please reach out to me at amandakraushaar@registrypartners.com

Tracy Paulus ODS-C

Treasurer

Martha Hill ODS-C Acting Treasurer

	April	May	June	
	\$	\$		
Beginning Balance:	17,383.33	17,416.43	17368.01	
Income:				
Membership - Checks	\$35.00			\$35.00
Membership - Stripe	\$311.90	\$100.58		\$412.48
Ways and Means - Booth NCRA		\$95.00		\$95.00
NCRA Basket				
Total Income:	\$346.90	\$195.58		\$542.48
Expense:				
Mileage - Board				
Board lunch				
Website Maintenance	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$297.00
Website-Upgrade				
NCRA CE		\$125.00		\$125.00
NCRA: parking		\$20.00		\$20.00
NCRA Basket	\$214.80			\$214.80
Total Expense:	\$313.80	\$244.00	\$99.00	\$656.80
Ending Balance	\$17,416.43	\$17,368.01	\$17,269.01	
Balance Savings Account	\$21,005.71	\$21,006.07	\$21,006.41	
Total Assets for ICRA as of 6/30/2024:	\$38,422.14	\$38,374.08	\$38,275.42	

LeAnn Capps BA, ODS-C, Past President

Hello members, as Past President of the association I will be setting up the election ballot for next years Board of Directors. Positions that will be voted on this year will be President Elect, Vice President and Secretary. Mandi K will be President and Tracy P will still be finishing her two year term as Treasurer.

Martha A. Hill ODS-C, AAS

Membership Chair 2024

2024 Membership Drive Has Closed for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year!

Happy Fall ICRA Members. The ICRA membership closes 60 days prior to the November Fall Conference. We currently have 75 members which is comparable to the 2023 numbers. If you have any suggestions on how to encourage our fellow Indiana ODS peers to join ICRA please pass them on to Mandy Kraushaar, president-elect.

As I continue to see membership numbers decline over the past several years, it concerns me if our association can sustain, or will dissolve as so many other things have and are continuing to disband post COVID . Many of us take advantage of the free NCRA approved webinars offered as part of our membership dues, and I am grateful for the hours our Education Chairman puts in to preparing and presenting those. However, for me sitting in front of a computer does not take the place of being able to attend our Annual Fall Conference, networking with fellow data specialist in exchanging ideas, issues and solutions. I have been given many helpful suggestions and ideas sitting around a luncheon table, or while we are waiting for a speaker to present. Being able to ask questions of the speakers and peers in real time and receiving answers in real time sometimes makes much more logic to me than reading the manuals. Sometimes it just clicks in the way it is stated or presented.

But that is not the only reasons I love meeting people. I have made many friends over the years who I still communicate with. Not only to ask questions about abstracting, CoC accreditation, or how do you do this or that, but as friends who have helped me through some really tough times.

I will always value those friendships, and would not have had them if it were not for in person meetings.

As this year's Fall Conference will be virtual, I will miss seeing all of you and networking with you. My hope is in 2025 we will move back to an in person conference and we will be able to network, renew friendship and meet new ODS who have joined our field.

This will be my last article for the "*Indiana Abstract*" as a member of the ICRA Board. I have enjoyed being a representative for the membership to the board and being a spokesperson for each of you, the members. I will miss the notes you all have enclosed with your membership checks during my tenure as the membership chair. Some coming at times when I needed encouragement and friendship. I hope you all will continue your commitment to our association and continue to be active members. I hope you will consider becoming active on the ICRA Board. New minds bring new ideas and new ideas sparks growth.

Until we see each other again, stay safe and be healthy. Most of all please stay in touch.

Joann Schultz, RHIT, ODS-C

Beth Otto, ODS-C, AAS-MA

Ways & Means

We hope everyone has enjoyed the Summer, all the fresh fruit, veggies & beautiful weather. We are looking forward to Fall and our Fall Conference. Although we will miss all the fun at the Fall Conference, Mandy has a great virtual program prepared. It was great seeing so many ICRA members at NCRA.

LeAnn Capps, BA, ODS-C

Public Relations

The annual conference is planned and registration is open! We have a great line up of presentations and several registration choices this year. Please spread the word to colleagues and have a great turn out this year! Hope to see everyone's name on the list this year.

Leslie Woodard, CHCM, ODS-C

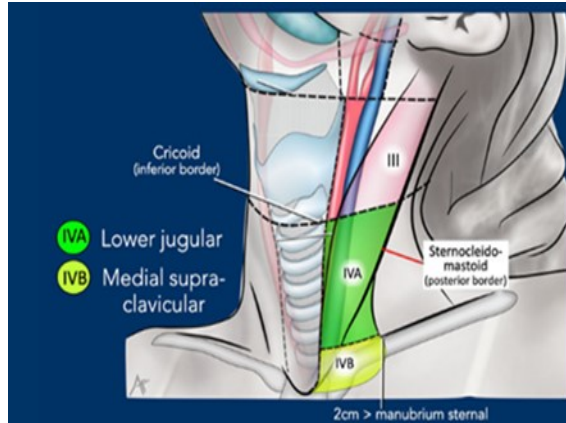
ICRA Education Chair

Determining if nodes are regional or distant for AJCC can be difficult, especially when your physicians don't assign a stage, or they all assign differently. Recently I've received more than one question about level IV neck nodes and lung cancer; are they considered regional N3 nodes, or are they too high in the neck and considered metastatic M1?

Table 36.1 in AJCC defines lung lymph node station 1 nodes as those that fall between the lower margin of the cricoid cartilage and the clavicles.

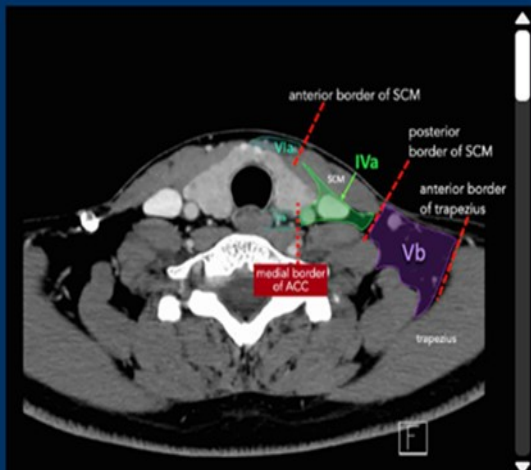
When researching what a level IV neck node is considered, you'll see they are called lower jugular nodes, deep cervical and even supraclavicular. AJCC is clear that supraclavicular nodes are N3, but lower jugular and deep cervical aren't specifically spelled out in the chapter.

My tip to you, when trying to determine things like this, is to look at the pictures available in the AJCC manual, and use Google (of course, making sure the resource you're looking at is a reputable source). Below are the resources I used in confirming that neck level IV nodes are considered N3 nodes for lung cancers, in addition to Table 36.1 in AJCC and Figure 36.1.



IV - Lower jugular and medial supraclavicular

The border between level IVa and IVb is set arbitrarily 2 cm cranial to the sterno-clavicular joint.



Level IVa

These nodes are at risk for harboring metastases from cancers of the hypopharynx, larynx, thyroid and cervical esophagus. Rarely metastases from the anterior oral cavity may manifest in this location with minimal or no proximal nodal disease.

Level IVb

These nodes are at risk for harboring metastases from cancers of the hypopharynx, subglottic larynx, trachea, thyroid and cervical esophagus.

Source: [The Radiology Assistant : Cervical Lymph Node Map](#)

Level IV: lower internal jugular (deep cervical) chain

- superiorly: inferior border of the cricoid cartilage
- inferiorly: level of the clavicle
- anteriorly: anterior border of the sternocleidomastoid muscle
- posterolaterally: oblique line drawn through the posterolateral edge of the sternocleidomastoid muscle and the lateral edge of the anterior scalene muscle ²
- medially: medial border of the common carotid artery
- includes medial supraclavicular nodes including Virchow node ¹

Source: [Lymph node levels of the neck | Radiology Reference Article | Radiopaedia.org](#)

So, with those resources, you can clearly see that the lower jugular nodes, or deep cervical chain, fall between the lower border of the cricoid and above the clavicles, therefore meeting the definition of a lung station1 node. Level IV neck nodes for lung cancer will always be N3. And remember, N3 is automatically a summary stage of 7 for lung ☹

<https://cancerbulletin.facs.org/forums/node/155235> (AJCC verification)

Did you know?

IDOH 2024 Manual has been released

See summary of changes here: https://www.in.gov/health/cdpc/files/DRAFT_Change-List-for-2024-IDOH-Policy-and-Procedure-Manual-Word-Final.pdf

Manual linked here: https://www.in.gov/health/cdpc/files/DRAFT_2024-Policy-and-Procedure-Manual-Word-Final.pdf

STORE 2025 has been released

Linked here: <https://www.facs.org/quality-programs/cancer-programs/national-cancer-database/ncdb-call-for-data/>

<https://www.facs.org/media/uf5gxb4i/store-2025.pdf>

Cassie Nobbe, CTR, Website

Website: www.icra-indiana.net

E-mail Address: icra_indiana@yahoo.com

ICRA Usernames and Passwords

In 2020, ICRA decided to assign individual usernames and passwords to the membership. If you are unsure of your username and password, please reach out to me via our e-mail address.

Username: first name.last name Example: cassandra.nobbe

ICRA Membership Application

ICRA's Membership Application is now an on-line process. To renew your membership, complete the application form on the website. Membership for the current year closes 60 days prior to the Annual Fall Conference. The application will vanish from the website at this time.

Link: Membership Application | ICRA (icra-indiana.net)

ICRA Payments

ICRA's accepts both check and on-line payments. Membership dues, conference fees, and sponsorship can be paid via the website. There is a processing fee for on-line transactions. Currently, the conference fee section is blank as we are not yet accepting payments for the Fall Conference. ICRA has recently added donations to the sponsorship tab. If you would like to support ICRA through a monetary donation you can do so online.

Membership Dues: [Membership Dues | ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](#)

Conference Fees: [Membership Dues | ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](#)

Sponsorship Fees: [Sponsorship Fees | ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](#)

ICRA Surveys

The Board of Directors will occasionally survey the Membership for their opinions. A section for these surveys has been added to the website.

Link: Surveys | [ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](http://ICRA (icra-indiana.net))

ICRA Blasts and Broadcast E-mails

At times ICRA's Blast/Broadcast e-mails are not received by active members. This may be due to firewalls and settings controlled by your organization or by my own human error. ICRA has designated a specific section in your member resources to store copies of these e-mails. After ICRA sends an e-mail to the membership, it is uploaded to the website.

Link: [ICRA Membership Blasts/Broadcast Emails | ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](#)

ICRA Webinar Recordings

ICRA sponsored webinars are saved in the Members Only section of the website.

Link: [ICRA Webinars | ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](#)

Indiana State Department of Health Cancer Registry Information

The education e-mail blasts from the Indiana State Department of Health Cancer Registry are uploaded to the website for your review.

Link: [Indiana State Department of Health Information | ICRA \(icra-indiana.net\)](#)





ICRA'S 45TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NOV 8TH 2024
VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

8:00 AM Welcome

8:15 AM Surgical Management of
Pancreatic Cancer
Kirpal Singh, MD, FACS

9:15 AM Indiana Cancer Registry Updates
Ainur Aliykhanova, DrPH, MHA

9:45 AM Highly Effective Habits of
Successful ODS-C Professionals
Heather Donohue, CCA, ODS-C

10:45 AM Break

11:00 AM Brain Tumors: An Overview
Kushal Shah, MD

12:00 PM Virtual Lunch / Annual Business
Meeting / Awards Ceremony

1:00 PM Surgical Management of Breast
Cancer: A Case Review Journey
Fiona Denham, MD, FACS

2:00 PM The Top 5 Cancer Sites: The ins,
outs, and in between
Karen Seymour, RHIT, ODS-C

3:00 PM Break

3:15 PM Concurrent Abstracting:
Advantages, Pitfalls and RCRS
Erin Weber, B.S., ODS-C

4:15 PM Closing Remarks

\$50

FOR
6.5 CE CREDITS*

Register By:
October 25, 2024
online at
<https://icra-indiana.net>
or via mail

*National Cancer Registrars Association
continuing education accreditation pending



ICRA'S ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION FORM FOR VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON 11/8/2024

Name: _____
Credentials: _____
Facility/Company: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____
(For registration confirmation and virtual conference link)
Phone: (_____) _____

Registration Options (select one):

☐ **\$50** ICRA Member
Conference Only

☐ **\$100** Non-Member
Conference Only

☐ **\$80** Conference + 2025 ICRA
Membership Package
Includes 3 additional virtual CES in 2025!

Registration Deadline: October 25, 2024

Registration/Payment Options:

Online at: <http://www.icra-indiana.net>

- or -

Mail check payable to ICRA and
completed registration form to:

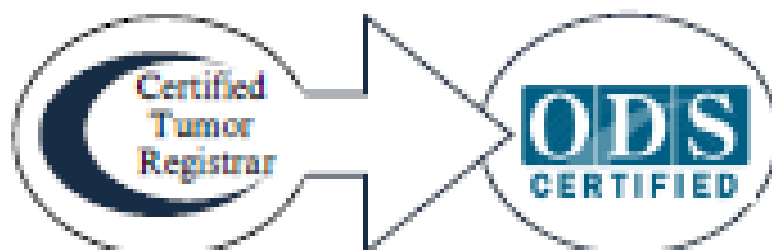
Indiana Cancer Registrars Association
c/o Mandi Kraushaar

840 S 650 E

Angola, IN 46703

*All checks returned for non-sufficient funds will
be the responsibility of the incurring party.*

CERTIFIED TUMOR REGISTRAR TO ONCOLOGY DATA SPECIALIST



SAME COMMITMENT TO HIGH QUALITY CANCER DATA

Transform Your Cancer Data into Valuable Insights to Improve Patient Care



ERS provides distinctive cancer registry compliance and informatics services that enable our customers to achieve and exceed their cancer center clinical and business objectives with a goal of improving cancer care for every patient.

Start your journey today!



Be sure to check out our monthly podcast - **Cancer Registry World** - hosted by **Dr. Frederick L. Greene!** Available wherever you listen to your favorite podcasts!



www.mycrstar.com

Build a Brighter Future

Do you want to work
in a **supportive team**
environment?

Do you want to feel
valued and
appreciated for the
work that you do?

Do you want to be a
part of a company
that **invests in your**
career?

Act Now...

*Registry Partners is hiring
part-time and full-time CTRs.*

- Competitive Pay
- Flexible Work Schedule
- Benefits at 30 Days
- Continuing Education Support
- Growth/Advancement Opportunities
- Full-Time Guarantee

Contact our Clinical Resources Team at:

careers@registrypartners.com / (336) 226-3359



RegistryPartners

DATA ABSTRACTION | REGISTRY MANAGEMENT | CONSULTING

registrypartners.com

f t in 1

imagine



...a secured cancer registry data center
that also lowers operational costs



With METRIQ[®], it's reality.

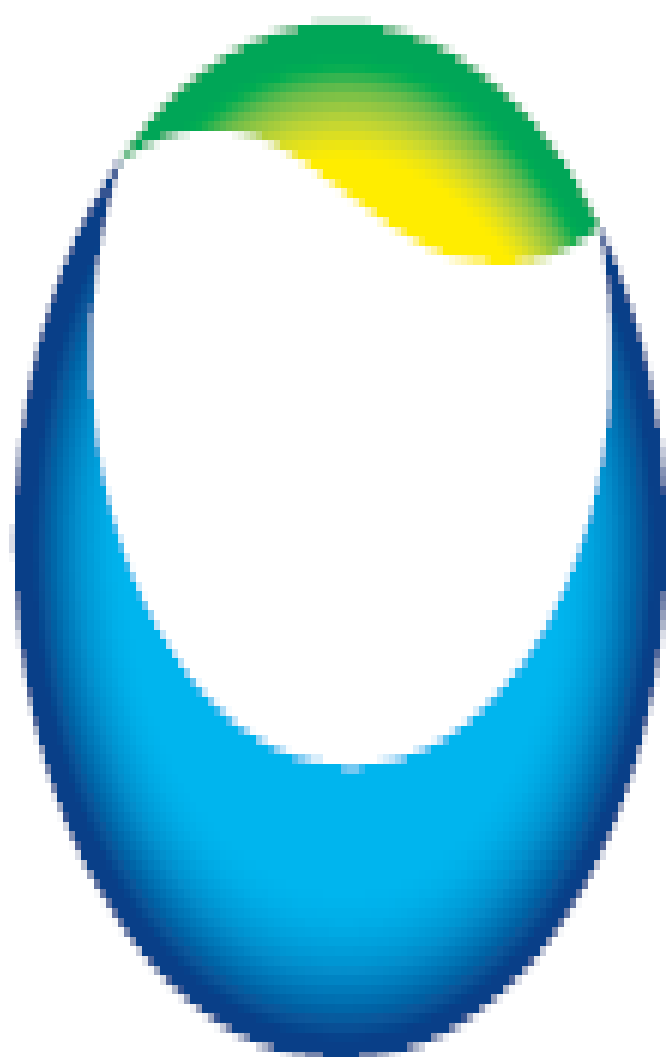
METRIQ[®] ASP includes a secured technical solution 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, daily back up and timely upgrades. This solution supports remote abstracting, helping your facility reduce cancer registry operational costs.

© 2007 Elekta, Inc.

More at elekta.com/metriq



ELEKTA



Daiichi-Sankyo