

Facts about the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry:

The New Hampshire State Cancer Registry collects, analyzes and interprets information that are used in the fight against cancer. The registry relies on health care providers throughout the State to report information about cancer cases in New Hampshire (NH). This statewide database is used to determine the impact of cancer on New Hampshire residents and to develop better ways to prevent and treat it.

Information is vital to preventing and treating cancer.

When was the registry established?

A state law created the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry in 1985 requiring that all facilities in NH report their cancer cases to the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry.



Who is required to report cancer cases?

Health care facilities including hospitals, pathology laboratories, ambulatory surgery centers, freestanding cancer clinics and treatment centers, long-term care facilities, and physician offices are required by law to provide basic information about cancer cases in NH to the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry.

What kind of information is collected?

- ✓ Patient demographics including age, gender, race, place of birth and residence
- ✓ Primary site of cancer
- ✓ Tumor histology
- ✓ Stage or extent of disease
- ✓ Treatment including surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, hormone or immunotherapy
- ✓ Current status of patient

Where is the registry located?

The cancer registry program is under the direction of the NH Department of Health and Human Services, which contracts with Dartmouth Medical School's Department of Community and Family Medicine in Lebanon, NH, to operate the registry.





Why is it important to report cancer cases to the registry?

The New Hampshire State Cancer Registry compiles information that is vital to the prevention and treatment of cancer. The data collected by the registry is used to determine the incidence of cancer in the state; conduct research and epidemiological studies; plan and evaluate public health initiatives; assess the quality of hospital programs and patient care; and set up cancer screening programs.

Without complete and accurate data, it would be difficult to develop effective comprehensive cancer prevention and control programs.

Who can request information from the registry?

Registry data is available to the residents of New Hampshire, as well as health care professionals, researchers and students.

How is confidentiality handled?

The New Hampshire State Cancer Registry maintains strict confidentiality. According to The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy

regulations, the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry is a public health authority authorized by law to collect and receive information for the purpose of preventing and controlling disease, injury or disability.



A covered entity such as a hospital or physician's office can disclose information to the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry without specific individual informed consent. However, the identities of patients or specific facilities are not released by the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry without written consent from the individual or facility.

Some cancer research studies can only be performed by contacting patients. After such a study is approved by NH DHHS, patient names may be released to researchers who can ensure that patient information will be used responsibly and maintained securely.

For more information about the New Hampshire State Cancer Registry, call 1-800-852-3345 or 1-800-443-5666 or visit <http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/HSDM/cancer-data.htm> or <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~nhscr/>

