

CANCER REGISTRY

The **Cancer Registry** is the Cancer Data Collection Center of the Mike O' Callaghan Federal Hospital (MOFH) and the VA Ambulatory Care Center (VA ACC) here in Las Vegas. Patients diagnosed and/or treated for cancer and certain benign (non malignant) conditions at these facilities are accessioned into the Cancer Registry.

The Cancer Registry staff provides resources for patients and their families and act as liaisons for all cancer patients. As liaisons, we become a permanent point of contact for cancer patients and their families with regards to all cancer related issues, problems, appointments and follow up. We help provide information for outside providers, arrange for copies of x-rays, records etc

Function

The function of the Cancer Registry is to decrease the morbidity (complications) and mortality (number of deaths) of patients with cancer. In other words, to improve the quality of life and length of life for patients diagnosed with cancer. The Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs requires that all hospitals have a cancer registry.

Purpose

The Cancer Registry identifies and follows all patients diagnosed and/or treated at this facility for cancer. The Medical Staff at the Mike O'Callaghan Federal Hospital (MOFH) and the VA Ambulatory Care Clinic (ACC) are very interested in your health and well-being. The purpose or reason that we collect cancer related data is to insure that you receive the highest quality of care, personal attention and appropriate follow up treatment at these facilities. By contacting newly diagnosed patients we can establish and help maintain a mutual level of trust and respect that will enhance your relationship with the facility and improve the lifetime follow-up.

Follow Up

We perform lifetime follow-up to maintain contact with each patient. This is to ensure that each patient receives timely & appropriate follow-up care. This information is important to us so that we can keep informed of your health status and current address. This enables us to maintain lifetime follow-up with you and provides us with survival information. We accomplish follow up through a system of regular contacts by either letters or phone calls. This information is maintained by the Cancer Registry in a confidential manner and will not be released without your consent. We comply with the most recent patient privacy laws. Our facility is governed by Department of Defense Regulation 6025.18-R of 24 January 2003 and Federal Health Information Patient Privacy Act (HIPPA) Regulation 45 CFR parts 160 and 164 of 14 August 2002. Obtaining this information is authorized by Title 10 U.S.C., Section 8D12 and Executive Order 9397.

Analysis

The Cancer Registry compiles a specialized and detailed abstract of each patient and their disease at the time of diagnosis. With this detailed information we are able to analyze the data collected. Then our doctors can evaluate the effectiveness of treatments to compare outcomes with other hospitals to see if our methods of treatment can be improved. This data collection allows us to provide information about the incidence of this disease for local, state and national statistics. This reporting of the abstracted information is forwarded to the Department of Defense Central Cancer Registry and the Nevada Cancer Registry who combines our data with data from all other hospitals. This combined data minus the personal information is forwarded to the National Cancer Database at the National Cancer Institute where it is combined with cancer data from the rest of the United States to provide cancer incidence. So when you hear information on the news such as "1 in 9 women will develop breast cancer". This was obtained from cancer registries reporting incidence.

Education

We are then able to determine what educational events and programs are beneficial. These educational programs focus on methods of prevention, early detection and screening for disease.

Research

By answering our requests for information you assist the Cancer Registry in providing vital information needed for research in the fight against cancer. Other benefits from reporting this information tells us what treatments or drugs are working and which ones are not. This allows for improved quality of care through research and through clinical trials to develop new drugs, improved surgical procedures, & research for new treatments. Ultimately this will improve the quality of life for cancer patients diagnosed now. This will also provide better outcomes for patients diagnosed in the future.

Resources

The Cancer Registry has many resources available to you for information and education about cancer and all cancer related conditions. Some of these resources include videos, books, tapes, CD's, pamphlets and booklets.