



ROCKY NEWS

Rocky Mountain Cancer Data Systems

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Winter 2002

RMCDs Annual Meeting 2002

RMCDs Annual Meeting 2002 - September 25 - 27, 2002

The Rocky Mountain Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Nebraska Cancer Registry. Judy has found a hotel across the river from Omaha in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

You can view information about the hotel at their web site. <http://www.basshotels.com/holiday-inn> The above web address



More annual meeting information to follow soon.

will take you to the Holiday Inn main page and you can use the Find a Hotel feature to find the location in Council Bluffs. The rate for the hotel is \$75.00 + tax and they have a free airport shuttle. We will be sending you more information as we get closer

to the meeting.
Nicole Aagaard

Mark and Nicole will be at NCRA if any hospitals would like to contact them about training at the booth during the meeting.



RMCDs is proud to announce the upcoming marriage of David Fawcett to Elizabeth Brinton on June 8th. Congratulations!

Help File

The RMCDs Windows version is up and running. The Staff of RMCDs is striving to make the Windows version as user friendly as possible. One of the functions that should help eliminate confusion is the Help system. Included with the RMCDs Windows programs is a help system filled with step by step instructions on how to use the various functionality found in the RMCDs programs. This help file can be found by clicking on HELP from the Main Window. Due to the modifications and improvements in the programs, the help system does change frequently. To assure that everyone can have access to all available help, we have placed a

link to the RMCDs Help program in our web page. To access this link simply go to <http://rmcds1.med.utah.edu>, click on the Links button, then click on the Downloads button. You will see a hyperlink labeled RMCDs Help. At this point you can do one of two things, open the file directly and view it, or save it to your \rmcds\programs directory to update the help in your programs. If you have any suggestions or requests for specific procedures that you would like to see included in the Help system, please send them to me at david.fawcett@m.cc.utah.edu I hope this helps make our Help helpful. Dave Fawcett

Inside this Issue:

Annual Meeting	1
Help File	1
Sorting Data	2
Best AJC Stage	2
New Controls	2
RMCDs Scrapbook	3
Training and Travel	3



New Option in Case Search (Sorting Data)

Searching for cases has not changed. The new option applies after the Search Grid is loaded with cases. Once the data has been loaded you can now sort each column of data. Sort the patients by clicking on the title of the column. For example, if you want to sort by Birth Date you would single click on the title Birth Date. The result would show from oldest to youngest starting at the top. You can sort by any column title in this way. The main sort

key is the column you click on. The minor sort keys start from left to right from the clicked column. This is why it shows the columns highlighted from left to right. So if there are two birth dates the same, it is using the next column to the right to decide which patient comes first. Of course all the data for the specific patients stays together.

Mark Hunzeker

Summary Report Option: Best AJC Stage

There has been a lot more emphasis placed on AJC stage information the last few years. We have created a new option in our Summary report which allows you to get best AJC stage information instead of SEER summary stage information. This puts out one more line on Table A since there is one more stage definition in AJC staging (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 9) than you find in the SEER summary stage information (In situ, Localized, Regional, Distant, and Unknown). We removed the blank line following the staging information to accommodate for this.

On Table B the Treatment 1st Course Vs Stage was done in a similar manner. The extra stage group was added and a blank line removed. The Table by Site also has the extra Best AJC stage included on it.

The Best AJC stage does have a code 8 (n/a). We have included this together with the stage #9 (Unknown stage).

This is in both the DOS version of the programs and will shortly be in the Windows version of the programs. In DOS, if you go to the menu where the Summary Program is listed it will show two options: Summary Program (SEER stage) and Summary Program (AJC stage). Just select the one you wish to run. In Windows there will be an additional box to indicate whether you wish AJC stage or SEER summary stage. Larry Derrick

New Controls

We are putting new controls in the Windows version of the abstracting and updating screens. The data fields will now be in type over mode so that you can more easily change existing data. Also delimiters will be automatic as they were in the DOS program. This will make the entry of treatment easier, since you will not need to enter the “/” and “-” as you enter the codes.

All read only fields will be shown in blue. So that you can identify any field that cannot be changed. The problem of word wrapping on long multi-line fields has been solved in this way; When you go to a multi-line field, a new window will pop up with all the text combined into one large edit box. When you finish your changes, you click the ‘OK’ button at the bottom. The window then disappears and the text will be redistributed among the corresponding fields.

We will continue to look for more ways to make the Windows program more useful and easier to use.

Kim Best

Rocky News is now on the RMCDS home page. Just go to www.rmcds1@med.utah.edu > documentations> and then the news letter you wish to read. Laura can email the newsletter to anyone who would prefer that or an email stating when the newsletter will be available on the web page. Contact Laura if you



Scrapping-up RMCDS

We have added fun to the RMCDS web page! As some of you may know, RMCDS began to keep a scrapbook containing pictures and other memorabilia from meetings and other significant events. The scrap book itself was compiled and arranged by Laura about 6 months ago and contains photos from as early as 1991. Now all can enjoy the memories and good times with the online version of the RMCDS Scrap book. I have scanned in arranged and labeled photos from various events pertinent to RMCDS history. These photos are categorized by event and are in chronological order. Please log on to the RMCDS web page and take a peek. The address is <http://rmcds1.med.utah.edu> Click on the Participant Info button at the top and then click on the Scrap Book button. There you will see a brief disclaimer and explanation followed by links to the various pages of the scrap book. I have arranged for about 6 photos per page so that each page will load in a reasonable amount of time.

If you would like to share your own photos from any of the occasions listed, or if you

have pictures from events that are not yet in the scrap book and would like them displayed for all to see, send them my way and I will post them. You can send electronic image files via email to david.fawcett@m.cc.utah.edu, or you can mail them on diskette to our normal address. If you have pictures, but no way to scan them onto a computer, you can send me the original photos, I will scan them in and send them back to you. If you have extra originals and would like them included in the hard copy of the RMCDS scrap book, send them, I will scan them in and then give them to Laura to put in the actual book. Please include information about the pictures, where they were taken and who is in them. I have done my best to have accurate information for each picture, if anyone notices any errors with names or locations, please let me know.

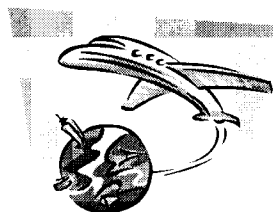
We hope you will enjoy the RMCDS Scrap book. Reminisce on some times past, or look at the pictures to see what the RMCDS Staff actually looks like if we've never met in person. Contact me with any questions or comments. Thank you. Dave

Summer Training and Travel

It is getting close to the beginning of our Summer Travel season and we are starting to schedule training trips. Remember before you can schedule a trip you must have all your past due bills paid in full and we are now charging for travel.

If you would like to schedule a training trip with one of our trainers please contact Nicole (801) 581-4307.

Nicole Aagaard



Address Changes

Please contact Laura or Nicole if you or any of your hospitals have address, phone number, or attention/contact changes so RMCDS can keep it's books accurate. Also , if any hospitals are added onto the system or discontinue the use of the Rocky Mountain system please let us know as soon as possible. Thank you

RMCDS staff would like to thank everyone for their patience during the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, held in Salt Lake City. We apologize for any inconvenience the office closures may have caused.