

# Rocky News

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## *RMCDs Calendar:*

RMCDs will be closed the following days for federal holidays:

- December 24 to January 5  
(Staff will be in periodically)
- January 19
- February 16
- May 31

## **We Are Moving**

RMCDs anticipates moving to a new office in Spring 2004. We will let you know when and where soon.

## Attention All DOS Users

Just a reminder that the DOS system will no longer be available in the FORDS system. If you have batch files in your custom menu, they will stay DOS for the time being. We will be slowly converting them to Windows as time allows.

~Mark Hunzeker

## Follow-Up Programs

Utah is testing a follow-up program offered by Accurit. Similar software is available from other companies as well. Using this software, they have had some luck in finding their lost to follow up cases. They had a trial period and were able to try and match just over 100 patients. The matches are performed using name, date of birth, and social security number (the output only shows the first 5 digits of the SSN). The preliminary results are as follows:

35 – verified and date last seen updated

38 – verified and date last seen in 2000 but not updated

1 – verified and date last seen in 1999 but not updated

25 – addresses some better date last seen some not, but not verified

3 – found nothing

One of these programs is something you may want to think about if you have had some hard to find cases. The registry did warn us however, that the sales people at these companies are extremely pushy. If you have any questions you can contact Belinda Taylor at the Utah Cancer Registry at (801) 581-8407 or [Belinda.Taylor@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:Belinda.Taylor@hsc.utah.edu)

## Address Changes

Did you get a new email address or phone number? Let RMCDs know so we can update our records and contact information. You can also include address and registrar position changes. Any changes can be emailed to [LF11@utah.edu](mailto:LF11@utah.edu).

## FORDS Conversion

When registries convert to FORDS please let RMCDs know. Conversion CDs are now available. If you have not yet converted please let us know when you will be ready to.

## Collaborative Stage

We have put the ability to calculate Collaborative Stage into the update program. Even though you are not required to use the fields until you enter 2004 diagnosed cases, you can experiment with it now. To use Collaborative Stage, bring up a case and enter the appropriate fields. The fields to be entered are:

Primary Site	Histologic Type ICD-O-3
Behavior Code ICD-O-3	Grade
Age at Diagnosis	CS Tumor Size
CS Extension Q	CS Size/EXT Eval
CS Lymph Nodes	Regional Nodes Positive
Regional Nodes Examined	CS Reg Nodes Eval
CS Mets at DX	CS Mets Eval
CS Site-Specific Factor 1	CS Site-Specific Factor 2
CS Site-Specific Factor 3	CS Site-Specific Factor 4
CS Site-Specific Factor 5	CS Site-Specific Factor 6

Since most of your screens do not have many of these codes, you will probably need to use Screen 90. After you entered the appropriate values select 'Collaborative Stage' from the pull-down menu and then click 'Calculate'. The program will then generate the following fields:

Derived AJCC T	Derived AJCC T Descriptor
Derived AJCC N	Derived AJCC N Descriptor
Derived AJCC M	Derived AJCC M Descriptor
Derived AJCC Stage Group	Derived SS1977

For more information on Collaborative Stage, you can go to the World Wide Website at:  
<http://www.cancerstaging.org/collab.html>

~Kim B

## Fords Abstract Screens

The conversion to the FORDS data standards has introduced a great deal of change in the past few months. One of the biggest changes is the modification of required fields. This of course has led to changes in the Abstracting screens within RMCDS. Many facilities have already converted and have the new fields loaded in their FORDS abstracting screens. If your facility has not yet converted to FORDS, please review the new standard screens, along with your current screens, to determine which data items will be necessary for your institution. Also, if your facility has any custom variables in the ROADS version that you wish to maintain in the FORDS version, be sure to let me know which fields those are.

The new standard hospital screens can be found on the web at:

[Http://rmcds1.med.utah.edu/other/FORDSScreens.htm](http://rmcds1.med.utah.edu/other/FORDSScreens.htm). The new standard Central Registry screens can be found at <http://rmcds1.med.utah.edu/other/FORDSCTRabs.htm>. Abstract screens can be made before your facility converts to FORDS. If you want to use the standard screens, or if your central registry has created a template for your facility, please let me know. All screen requests, fixes, or modifications should be sent to David. Email is preferred ([david.fawcett@m.cc.utah.edu](mailto:david.fawcett@m.cc.utah.edu)) Faxes are also accepted at (801) 581-5704. All abstract screen requests must be submitted in writing. If you do need to request new custom fields, make sure to include the field name, length and valid codes. Happy abstracting!

~David Fawcett