



... Learn by Doing

We are pleased to announce the release of SEER*Educate, an online training platform for people in the cancer registry profession or interested in working at a registry. As registry trainers know, there have never been enough practical application exercises available for people to learn how to do this job or to stay current with the changing guidelines. A primary goal of SEER*Educate is to fill this need.

You learn cancer registry work by doing cancer registry work. Currently available on SEER*Educate are 295 practice cases across the twelve largest primary site groups available for coding using Collaborative Stage version 02.04 and the 2013 SEER Program Coding and Staging Manual. Not only are you presented with the correct values for each of the 60+ data items, you also are presented with rationales explaining how to arrive at the correct code. It's exactly like having a registry trainer reviewing 100% of your work.

No matter where you are on the registrar career path, experienced or inexperienced, certified or not certified, hospital-based or population-based, this tool offers the training you need to:

- Prepare for the CTR exam
- Earn Continuing Education credits for free
- Train on real-life case scenarios when learning new coding schemes and guidelines

SEER*Educate helps improve individual performance and provides standard setters an opportunity to use evidence-based summary data to improve coding consistency using the current coding manuals and to prepare new coding manuals addressing issues found in the existing manuals. All of us want to achieve high quality cancer data collection nationally and internationally so that researchers can trust that our de-identified, pooled data has been coded consistently. Ours is a unique profession in that cancer registrars are highly driven towards the greater goals for the entire cancer registry community.

Practice exercises currently available:

- Medical terminology
- Statistics
- Computer principles
- Commission on Cancer standards
- Real-life case scenarios using CSv02.04 (295 cases)

New content will be made available quarterly. The near-term scheduled releases include:

 Practice cases for the 2014 Hematopoietic & Lymphoid Database and Manual (January 2014)

- Practice cases for CSv02.05 (January 2014)
- Cancer Program Management Principles and Practices textbook (April 2014)
- Anatomy (July 2014)

What do you need to get started? A computer using the web browser Mozilla Firefox® and a desire to learn from mistakes! SEER*Educate is freely available to everyone.

Everyone who signs up will be notified quarterly about the release of new content. Sign up at SEER*Educate today by visiting https://educate.fhcrc.org/. Learn by doing. Get started now with a demonstration exercise.

We need your help in spreading this news throughout the cancer registrar community. We are sending this announcement to presidents of state associations, registry managers, staff at the standard-setter organizations, and our beta testers. Please forward this e-mail and attached documents to everyone who might be interested in this free training opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mary Potts, RHIA, CPA, CTR
Director, Information Services
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Cancer Surveillance System
mpotts@fhcrc.org

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Helpful Hints for SEER*Educate

- 1. Firefox is required. No other web browser is supported at this time.
- 2. To ensure you have the latest version, follow the instructions on the Home page to clear your browser cache. Do this weekly. We are working on a solution to eliminate the need to clear your browser cache.
- 3. Taking the practice tests:
 - a. You will have the best user experience using a dual-monitor workstation so you can display the case scenario on one screen and the coding form on another.
 - b. The practice cases can be displayed on a 22" widescreen monitor, sizing the case scenario and coding form so that both may been seen.
 - c. Laptop users will need extremely good vision to size and display the case scenario and coding form on the screen.
- 4. Read the Answers and Rationales page under the Introduction Menu. It describes how the preferred answers were determined and what to do if you believe a preferred answer is in error.
- 5. Hospital registrars: On the Practical Application page, click the link to display a page listing the differences between SEER and hospital coding guidelines. The preferred answers are based on SEER coding guidelines.

- 6. You can pause any test or coding exercise by clicking the Finish Later button. To resume, go to the Training Menu and click on Incomplete Tests. We understand that a registrar has to deal with interruptions.
- 7. Embrace making mistakes. Focus on understanding the rationales. Scores will improve as your understanding improves.
- 8. To earn the Continuing Educate credits, you must score a minimum of 70% on all the case coding exercises in a site group. You can retake coding exercises as many times as necessary.

We hope you discover that SEER*Educate's "Learn by Doing" training platform is an effective tool to help you and your staff improve the technical skills necessary to succeed in our dynamic and challenging profession.