

## **TUMOR REGISTRY**

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The Tumor Registry is a division of the University of Tennessee Medical Center Cancer Institute. The Registry captures and monitors all cancer patients diagnosed and/or treated by the Medical Center. Abstracts for each patient are compiled and entered into a computerized database. The data abstracted includes patient demographics, diagnostic findings, diagnosis, cancer treatment, disease staging, and lifetime follow-up. The fundamental goals of the Tumor Registry are to help clinicians understand the causes of cancer, the most effective treatment for different types of cancer and ultimately what may lead to a cure for cancer. The Registry also monitors the outcome of cancer care providing statistical data for determining if one treatment is more effective and allows institutions to evaluate their own performance. The system serves as a valuable resource for assessing quality of care, research investigations and administration. During 2008 and 2009, statistical information was provided to clinicians, researchers and management for 171 and 207 projects respectively.

The Tumor Registry added 1,754 cases in 2008 and 1,762 in 2009 to the registry database (Table 1 & Table 2) while lifetime follow-up of past cases was maintained at a rate of 91 percent. The percent of cancer cases entered into the Tumor Registry remains consistent with both state and U.S. estimated averages for accessions of breast, lung, prostate, bladder and melanoma cases. The number of colorectal cases remains below state and national averages. (Table 3 and 4). In-state referrals increased, reflecting the Cancer Institute's ongoing dedication to providing the public with a full range of services to prevent, diagnose, treat, and rehabilitate patients with a malignant diagnosis (Table 5).

The Registry follows the guidelines set forth by the American College of Surgeons, Commission on Cancer. The registry submits data to the Tennessee Cancer State Registry and to the National Cancer Database, a division of American College of Surgeons, Commission on Cancer. Four full-time certified tumor registrars staff the Tumor Registry and are dedicated to quality database management.