



# 2026 NCRA ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Updates will be posted to NCRA's website at [www.ncra-usa.org/conference](http://www.ncra-usa.org/conference).

*Times are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). Times are tentative.*

## TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026

8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop: Informatics for Cancer Registry Professionals</b> (In-person only; separate registration required.)
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop: ODS Exam Prep: Hands-On Strategies for the Open-Book Section</b> (In-person only; separate registration required.)
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	<b>Pre-Conference Workshop: CDC-NPCR's Education and Training Coordinators</b> (In-person only; by invitation.)

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	<b>Concurrent Workshop: Fundamentals of Abstracting</b> (In-person only; separate registration required.)
PLENARY SESSIONS	
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	<b>Welcome and Keynote Address</b> <i>Michael J. Ferguson, MD, MS, Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Bone Marrow Transplant and Professor of Pediatrics, University of Louisville School of Medicine</i>
9:35 AM – 10:20 AM	<b>Charting a Bold New Path Towards More Meaningful and Sustainable Cancer Registries</b> <i>Eric Durbin, DrPH, MS</i>
10:20 AM – 11:00 AM	BREAK
11:00 AM – 11:45 AM	<b>AJCC Staging: Insights into New 2025 Changes and Clarification of Staging Issues</b> <i>Donna Gress, RHIT, ODS</i>
11:50 AM – 12:35 PM	<b>AJCC Oropharynx HPV-Associated and Salivary Glands: Insights from the Expert Panel</b> <i>Raja Seethala, MD</i>
12:35 PM – 2:30 PM	<b>State Networking Lunch</b>
2:30 PM – 3:15 PM	<b>Applying the Reformatted Solid Tumor Rules with Confidence</b> <i>Denise Harrison, BS, ODS, and Jim Hofferkamp, ODS</i>
3:20 PM – 4:05 PM	<b>Hidden Trends in AYA Cancers: Are We Asking the Right Questions?</b> <i>Angela Costantini, BA, ODS</i>
4:10 PM – 4:55 PM	<b>NCRA: What's New on the Horizon</b>
4:55 PM – 5:00 PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
5:15 PM – 7:00 PM	<b>Welcome Reception and Exhibit Hall Open</b>



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## THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM	EXHIBIT HALL OPEN
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST IN THE EXHIBIT HALL
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	<b>Annual Business Meeting</b>
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM	<b>Concurrent Workshop: Fundamentals of Abstracting</b> (In-person only; separate registration required.)
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	<b>Partner Updates</b> <i>Ahmedin Jemal, DVM, PhD (American Cancer Society); Stephanie Hill, MPH, ODS (NAACCR); TBD (NCI-SEER); TBD (CDC-NPCR); Alison Van Dyke, MD, PhD, FCAP (Cancer PATHChart)</i>
10:00 AM – 10:45 AM	BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL
<b>DISEASE SITES</b> Physicians will provide a detailed review of each case. An ODS-certified cancer registrar will outline the AJCC staging based on information from the physician (clinical/pathological or post-therapy clinical/pathological). In addition, the cancer registrar will review for each case the Summary Stage, Surgical Codes, Site-Specific Data Items, Grade, Extent of Disease, and Solid Tumor Rules.	
10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	<b>Disease Site 1: Gynecologic</b> <i>Doctor: Hope Cottrill, MD</i> <i>Cancer Registrar: Tracy Sumler, BA, ODS</i>
12:15 PM – 2:00 PM	<b>Education Poster Presentations and Lunch and Learn Sessions</b> 
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	<b>Disease Site 2: Hematopoietic</b> <i>Doctor: Navneet Majhail, MD, MS, FASTCT</i> <i>Cancer Registrar: Leslie Woodard, CHCM, ODS</i>
3:30 PM – 4:00 PM	BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	<b>Disease Site 3: Pancreatic</b> <i>Doctor: Prakash Pandalai, MD, FACS</i> <i>Cancer Registrar: Kelli Olsen, MS, ODS</i>
5:30 PM – 5:35 PM	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
5:45 PM – 7:15 PM	<b>Recognition and Awards Reception</b>



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## FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

7:30 AM – 10:30 AM	EXHIBIT HALL OPEN				
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	BREAKFAST IN THE EXHIBIT HALL				
8:30 AM – 1:00 PM	<b>Concurrent Workshop: Fundamentals of Abstracting</b> (In-person only; separate registration required.)				
9:00 AM – 9:45 AM	<b>Show Me the Data: Advocating for Your Cancer Registry Through Insightful Reporting</b> <i>Karen Mace, RHIT, ODS</i>				
9:45 AM – 10:30 AM	BREAK IN THE EXHIBIT HALL				
	<b>Hospital Registry</b> Live Streamed	<b>Central Registry</b>	<b>CoC Cancer Programs</b>	<b>Registry Management</b>	<b>Pediatric</b> <b>NEW</b>
CONCURRENT TRACKS					
10:30 AM – 11:15 AM	<b>Using Anatomy to Boost Abstracting Skills</b> <i>Breana Norton, BA, ODS</i>	<b>Leveraging Informatics Methods and Expertise to Improve Data Quality in the Central Cancer Registry</b> <i>Kacey Wigren, RHIT, ODS</i>	<b>CoC: Update on Activities and Initiatives</b> <i>Laurie Kirstein, MD, FACS</i>	<b>M&amp;M Conferences: Not Just for Doctors Anymore!</b> <i>Gina McNellis MA, RHIA, GCCR, CHP, ODS; Patricia Thompson, MPH, RHIT, ODS</i>	<b>ALL &amp; AML: AYA (and Pediatric) Leukemia Lessons for Advancing Medical Literacy</b> <i>Crista Adams, ODS; Rebecca Moore, ODS</i>
11:20 AM – 12:05 PM	<b>Decreasing Discomfort with Hematopoietic and Lymphoid Primaries</b> <i>Kelli Aimar, BA, ODS</i>	<b>Using Assistive Technologies (Python, OCR, AI, and NLP) to Process PDF Laboratory Results</b> <i>Tim DeMint (invited)</i>	<b>Tools to Help Manage Your Facilities Accreditations and Ensure Complete Annual Reporting</b> <i>Angela Fraley, ODS</i>	<b>From Standards to Strategy: Personalizing Your Cancer Registry for Precision and Performance</b> <i>Rebecca Renfrew, BS, ODS; Denise Lutkemeier, RN, ODS</i>	<b>Estimating the Burden Due to Brain and Other CNS Tumors in Children and Adolescents in the United States</b> <i>Carol Kruchko; Quinn Ostrom, PhD, MPH</i>
12:10 PM – 12:55 PM	<b>Co-Morbidities and Cancer Outcomes: Implications for the Cancer Registry</b> <i>Frederick Greene, MD</i>	<b>Resolving Data Quality Issues</b> <i>Matthew Mayfield, MS, ODS; Farzana Salimi, MPH, ODS</i>	<b>Updates from the NAPBC/ CoC Unification Project</b> <i>Penne Perry, RHIT, ODS; Erin Reuter, JD, MS</i>	<b>Data Roundup: Harnessing Excel and Power BI to Corral Productivity and Quality in Oncology Registries</b> <i>Sherita Hearn, MPH, ODS</i>	<b>Age Matters: Pediatric vs Adult Lymphoma</b> <i>Stephanie Gutierrez, BS, ODS</i>



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## FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026 continued

	Hospital Registry Live Streamed	Central Registry	CoC Cancer Programs	Registry Management	Pediatric <b>NEW</b>
CONCURRENT TRACKS					
1:00 PM – 2:15 PM	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN				
2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	<b>Precision Under Pressure: Radiation Therapy for Head &amp; Neck Cancers</b>  <i>Ashley Maxey, BSRT(T), ODS</i>	<b>Implementing Statewide Pediatric Staging in Kentucky</b>  <i>Eric Durbin, DrPH, MS; Michele Hoskins, BA, ODS</i>	<b>National Cancer Database Updates and Upcoming Changes</b>  <i>Ryan McCabe, PhD</i>	<b>Empowering Cancer Registrars: Best Practices for Data Requests and Reporting</b>  <i>Penne Perry, RHIT, ODS</i>	<b>Precision Abstracting: Molecular Markers and Genetics in Pediatric Oncology</b>  <i>Stephanie Gutierrez, BS, ODS</i>
3:05 PM – 3:50 PM	<b>Data Quality Reviews: More than a Chore</b>  <i>Amy Warren, BS, ODS</i>	<b>Central Registries: Building Better Relationships with Reporting Facilities</b>  <i>Lindsay Collins, MPA, ODS; Jaime Mauer, ODS</i>	<b>From Problems to Progress: Building and Sustaining Effective Quality Improvement Projects</b>  <i>Eileen Reilly, MSW</i>	<b>From Data to Dialogue: How AI Empowers Cancer Registry Leaders</b>  <i>Kelly Merriman, MPH, PhD, ODS; Ronda Broome, MS, MSHMI, ODS</i>	<b>The Etiology of Childhood Cancers: The Genetic Changes and the SSDIs that We Code in the Registry</b>  <i>Gillian Howell, PhD, ODS</i>
3:55 PM – 4:40 PM	<b>Pathologists and Cancer Registrars: Determining Recurrences</b>  <i>Michael Berman, MD; Mildred Jones, BA, ODS</i>	<b>How to Use Internship Programs and Student Practicums to Help Staff Your Registry</b>  <i>Jacqueline Neas, ODS; Terri Rice, MSPT, ODS</i>	<b>Jockeying into Position: When the Objective Is NAPRC Accreditation</b>  <i>Vanessa Hoffmann, MBA, ODS</i>	<b>Promoting Cancer Registry Data Through Divisional Data Decks</b>  <i>Ashley Oates, MHA; Joanne Sexton, ODS</i>	<b>Telling a Story with Pediatric Data: Let's Get on the Same Page</b>  <i>Crista Adams, ODS</i>
4:40 PM – 4:45 PM	Closing Remarks	Closing Remarks	Closing Remarks	Closing Remarks	Closing Remarks

## SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	<b>NCI-SEER is planning a post-conference educational event.</b> <i>Details will be available online later in 2026.</i>
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