

## CRGC Receives Gold Certification!

Dee West, PhD  
CRGC Executive Director



Cancer registries that meet the Gold Standard for Registry Certification have achieved the highest NAACCR standard for complete, accurate, and timely data to calculate standard incidence statistics for the year reviewed. The assessment is repeated annually. To achieve Gold Certification, the data from a cancer registry must meet all of the following criteria:

- 95% or higher in case completeness.
- 3% or less of cases are identified only by a death certificate.
- 0.1% or less of case reports are duplicates.
- 100% of variables used to create incidence statistics by cancer type, sex, race, age, and county are error-free.
- 2% or less of case reports in the file are missing information on age, sex, and county.
- 3% or less of cases are missing information on race.
- File submitted for evaluation is within 23 months of the close of the diagnosis year under review.

Founded in 1987, the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, Inc. (NAACCR) is a professional organization that develops and promotes uniform data standards for cancer registration. NAACCR also provides education and training; certifies population-based registries; aggregates and publishes data from central cancer registries; and promotes the use of cancer surveillance data and systems for cancer control and epidemiologic research, public health programs, and patient care to reduce the burden of cancer in North America. NAACCR's certification activity was begun in 1998.

The CRGC was founded in 2001 to identify, process, and use data from 7 of the 10 regional registries in California. Over 100,000 cases are annually reported to the CRGC, resulting in about 85,000 newly diagnosed cases of cancer. Beginning with cases diagnosed in 2012, the year the CRGC became



independent from the State, the **CRGC has received a Gold Certification from NAACCR for each of these 4 years.**

These Certification certificates tell a story - that this high standard is the way things are done at CRGC and that we are doing everything possible to achieve this high level of high-quality data. The cancer community, and most importantly its patients deserve nothing less. **Thanks to all of our staff, the hospitals, and physicians in the CRGC area for their belief and dedication to these high standards.**