

## CANCER REGISTRY AWARDED HIGHEST STANDARD IN NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

Cranston, R.I. – June 10, 2008 –The Rhode Island Statewide Cancer Registry has been awarded the “Gold Standard” for the ninth consecutive year by the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR), the accrediting body for central cancer registries. The accreditation process involves the examination of six distinct areas of data quality, completeness and timeliness. Rhode Island met the highest standard, the “Gold Standard,” in all six criteria.

The Rhode Island Statewide Cancer Registry is funded by the Rhode Island Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Program of Cancer Registries, and has been operating under the auspices of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island since 1986. The registry collects data about occurrences of cancer diagnosed in Rhode Island residents. The data serve as a cornerstone to the state’s cancer surveillance and control efforts and aid cancer researchers. All hospitals in Rhode Island report to the Statewide Registry.

“The registrars in our hospitals and in our central registry are constantly striving for the highest quality in their work, and we are proud of this recognition,” said Edward J. Quinlan, president of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island.

"The Cancer Registry is a critical public health surveillance tool and I am proud of the outstanding work of the state's cancer registrars as well as the Health Department staff who have worked diligently for many years on the registry," said Director of Health David R. Gifford, MD, MPH.

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