



## **DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DELAWARE CANCER REGISTRY

September 10, 2009

### **Who Must Report Cancer Cases?**

Effective for cases diagnosed on or after January 1, 1996, **all health care facilities that diagnose or treat cancer** are required to report cancer case information. These include all hospitals, laboratories, physicians and free standing health care facilities. Chapter 32 of the Delaware Cancer Control Act, states: "Those required to report to the Department occurrences of cancer and benign tumors\* shall include:

1. **Any physician, surgeon, dentist, podiatrist, or other health care practitioners** who diagnose or provide treatment for cancer or benign tumors;
2. **The designated representative of any hospital, dispensary, asylum, or other similar public or private institution** that diagnoses or provides treatment for cancer or benign tumors; and
3. **The designated representative of any laboratory that examines tissue specimens** which disclose the existence of cancer or benign tumor".

**\*Please note** – the only **benign tumors** that are currently required to be reported to the DCR are **brain and central nervous system tumors**.

### **Why Report Cancer Cases?**

**Reporting of ALL reportable cases is vital to analyzing Delaware's cancer incidence & mortality rates.**

Approximately 12% of Delaware's cases of cancer or benign tumors never present to a hospital system for diagnosis or treatment. The most common types of cancer diagnosed or treated *outside* a hospital setting include melanoma, noninvasive bladder tumors, small eye tumors, oral or genital tumors, some prostate and breast tumors, tumors in colorectal polyps, lymphoma, leukemia, multiple myeloma, myelodysplastic syndrome, polycythemia vera, and other bone marrow primaries. For a complete list of tumors that are reportable to the Delaware Cancer Registry visit <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/dcr/home.html>.

**As specified on the Delaware Cancer Control Act, any person or entity that violates any provision of this chapter shall be fined \$100 for each violation.**

### **What and How Do I Report Cancer Cases?**

A minimal amount of demographic and diagnostic information is required to be reported. Completed reporting forms can be mailed or faxed to the:

DE Cancer Registry  
2055 Limestone Road, Suite 213  
Wilmington, DE 19808  
Ph 302-995-8605  
Fax 302-995-8250

Disease occurrences reportable to the DCR, reporting forms, reporting instructions for both hospital and non-hospital reporters, and more information can be requested by phone or online at:  
<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/dcr/home.html>