Category A Requirement for CTR Continuing Education

WHAT: CTR credentialed individuals are required to comply with a new continuing education standard as set forth by NCRA's Council on Certification. At least four (4) of the required 20 CE hours must fall within "**Category A**" which covers the specific topic(s) of: directly assigned stage and/or site specific coding principles.

WHO/WHEN: All current CTRs will be required to comply with this mandatory CE policy. The **Category A** requirement goes into effect for CTRs whose CE Cycle ends 12/31/2017.

HOW: The **Category A** CE's are to satisfy at least 4 of a CTR's 20 CE minimum. CTRs that completed **Category A** CE's in 2016 will be allowed to use those CE's to fulfill the requirement. You are encouraged to tailor your CEs to the role you perform in your daily work. **Category A** CE's are to be submitted along with other completed CEs during the CE Cycle.

A CTR may complete training(s) from any provider(s) on **Category A** topics to attain required CE content. To qualify for CE's, content must improve or expand the existing base of knowledge or skills of the CTR.

Examples of typical activities for Category A credit
- **Directly assigned stage**

    SEER Summary Stage

    Activities under this topic may include materials that define directly assigned SEER Summary Stage, including guidelines and code structure (in situ, localized, regional by direct extension, regional lymph nodes, regional by direct extension and regional lymph nodes, regional NOS, and distant).

    AJCC Clinical and Pathologic TNM Staging

    Activities under this topic would define the TNM categories and stage group requirements for clinical and pathologic staging, anatomy (e.g. prostate), regional lymph nodes, metastatic sites and prognostic factors (e.g. Gleason score, Prostate-specific antigen).

- **Site specific coding**

    Activities under this topic may include training relevant to specific site (e.g. prostate) requirements for coding (e.g. number of cores examined/positive, clinical staging procedure).

National Cancer Registrars Association

Council on Certification