

# Quality assurance in the FRANCIM cancer registry data

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The French network of cancer  
registries FRANCIM



# Context

Each registry in FRANCIM **determines its organisation independently according to**

- local context
- national administrative laws
- international rules for cancer registries

**Publication in 2003** by the ENCR of *"standards and guidelines for cancer registration in Europe"*  
**IARC technical publication N°40**



**Quality process**



# Objective of the quality process

## Standardizing practices

**in order to improve**

- data quality and comparability**
- efficiency of registries' procedures**



# Method

## The 4 steps quality process

- Describe registration practices in 2004 in the French registries
- Elaborate guidelines for each organ
- Elaborate common guidelines and tools
- Evaluate the quality process

## “Quality” workgroup

- Representatives of various registries
  - ✓ 1 national pediatric registry member
  - ✓ 1 organ specialised registry member
  - ✓ 5 general registries members



# Step 1 Objectives

## Description registration practices in 2004

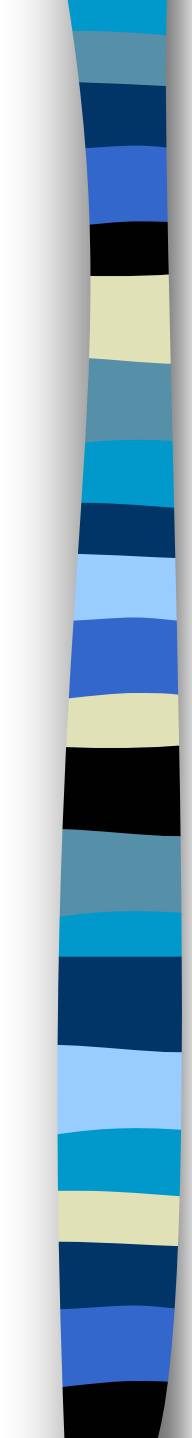
- Identify convergent and divergent registration practices in the registries of Francim
- Compare these practices to the ENCR guidelines published in 2003
- Identify difficulties in applying these rules



# Step 1 Methods

- Questionnaire elaboration
- All registries answered the questionnaire
- Analyses

For each subject, analyses of convergent and divergent practices were carried out separately for general and specialised registries



# Step 1 Results on ENCR guidelines

- ENCR guidelines globally well followed
- Difficulties
  - Incidence date in absence of microscopic confirmation
  - Use of specific tumour markers
  - Morphology codes acceptable in absence of microscopic confirmation
  - Recording multiple primary tumours
  - Recording additional tumours
  - Recording optional items



# Step 2

- To standardize practices by elaborating French guidelines for each organ
- A workgroup for each organ
- Validation criteria
- Web forum

Today most guides are in the final round of validation



# Step 3

- To share experiences in order to improve the efficiency of collection procedures  
4 workgroups for specific data sources
- To set up a guide on common practices  
(1 workgroup)
- To find procedures for informing patients and for encoding data (2 workgroups)
- To pool the existing data-processing procedures



# Discussion

- Use of French guidelines as teaching material for a specific French course (collaboration InVS-Francim).
- Common discrepancies with the european guidelines already discussed at the last ENCR meeting.



# Conclusion

**Participation of each member of Francim network.**

**Continuous participative quality process.**

**The quality process as well as scientific projects contribute to the development of Francim.**

