Upgrading the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries' Pathology Database

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Initiated in the 1960's with the mission of acquiring and providing precise information about the effects of plutonium and other transuranic elements in man, the United States Transuranium Registries (USTUR) has followed up to 'old age' almost 500 volunteer Registrants who worked at weapons sites and received measurable internal doses. As a part of this follow up, it is important to accurately track Registrant causes of death. To obtain consistent, reliable pathology data, the USTUR has sub-contracted a professional nosologist to code all death certificates and autopsy reports using both revisions 9 and 10 of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, ICD-9-CM and ICD-10 respectively. The USTUR has redesigned and significantly expanded the functionality of its internal pathology database in a manner that emphasizes these data. The upgraded database focuses on 1) obtaining and importing quality cause of death data for each deceased registrant, and 2) designing forms that enhance the accessibility of data by enabling the user to search by case number, keywords, ICD-9-CM code, and ICD-10 code. Forms, search criteria and results, and quality assurance measures are described.

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