

# Investigating Suspected Cancer Clusters and Responding to Community Concerns: Guidelines from CDC and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

**WB-2181**

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**DATE/TIME:** September 27, 2013

**ORIGINATION/EXPIRATION DATES:** September 27, 2013 – September 27, 2015

**LOCATION:** *MMWR* Journal  
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/>

**HARDWARE/SOFTWARE:** Computer-Internet

**MATERIALS:** Access to computer

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** Physicians, Registered Nurses, Administrators, Infection control practitioners, employee health clinicians, health-care personnel

**PREREQUISITES:** Knowledge of Cancer Clusters of health events, such as chronic diseases, injuries, and birth defects that are often reported to health agencies

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** The goal of this report is to provide guidance to state and local health departments for using a systematic approach to responding to cancer cluster concerns in communities

**Objectives:**

1. Describe practical public health guidance to state and local health departments that respond to inquiries about suspected cancer clusters
2. Describe a four step process to addressing suspect cancer cluster
3. Identify tools so that state and local health departments can communicate with transparency with the community and embrace community involvement
4. Describe resources important in addressing these inquiries including data on cancer diagnoses, demographics, and environmental quality
5. Describe statistical and epidemiologic approaches for investigating suspected cancer

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