

**POSTER ABSTRACTS**  
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**Cancer**  
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**Feasibility of Using Automated Data for Studying Prostate  
Cancer and Hormone Therapy Treatment.**

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**Background:** Recent studies indicate hormonal therapy may improve survival for men with prostate cancer. However, studying the large numbers needed to draw conclusions about the effect of this treatment may be cost and time-prohibitive if medical record review is required for all patients. The purpose of this study is to determine the accuracy of computerized hormone therapy treatment.

**Methods:** This study was conducted among men with primary prostate cancer diagnosed during 1995 through 1996 who were diagnosed and treated at Henry Ford Health System. For medical record review, 50 patients were selected, stratified by whether injectable hormone therapy was recorded in automated data. We selected 25 cases with coded hormone therapy and 25 cases without. Medical record review was conducted to identify hormone therapy. The automated data were obtained from the tumor registry and from administrative databases.

**Results:** There were no cases in which therapy that was not recorded in the automated data was found in medical records. There were three cases for which automated data indicated that treatment was received but record review indicated no treatment. According to automated data, two of these patients had a single injection and one had monthly treatment for five years. It can be concluded for this case, 2% of total, the medical records were incorrect.

**Conclusions:** The agreement between medical records and automated data is good, in terms of both receipt of therapy and timing of the treatment. The results of this study have led to the development of a multicenter CRN project, currently in progress, designed to determine whether multisite automated data are a feasible resource for studying the effect of hormone therapy on prostate cancer survival.