

# AJCC 8th Edition Staging Among ACR Accredited Radiation Oncology Practices

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## Purpose

Many cancer programs are accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer (CoC). In 2017, the CoC required that all accredited facilities begin using the AJCC 8th Edition Cancer Staging Manual to stage all patients by January 1, 2018. In comparison to the 7th Edition, the 8th Edition is much more complex and takes into account significantly more tumor factors into stage grouping, requiring significantly more time to document. In view of the increased complexity with staging new cancer patients, we sought to determine the proportion of American College of Radiology (ACR) accredited radiation oncology practices who had adopted 8th Edition staging into their practices. We also sought to determine whether these practices were using their electronic health record (EHR) staging tools or staging manually.

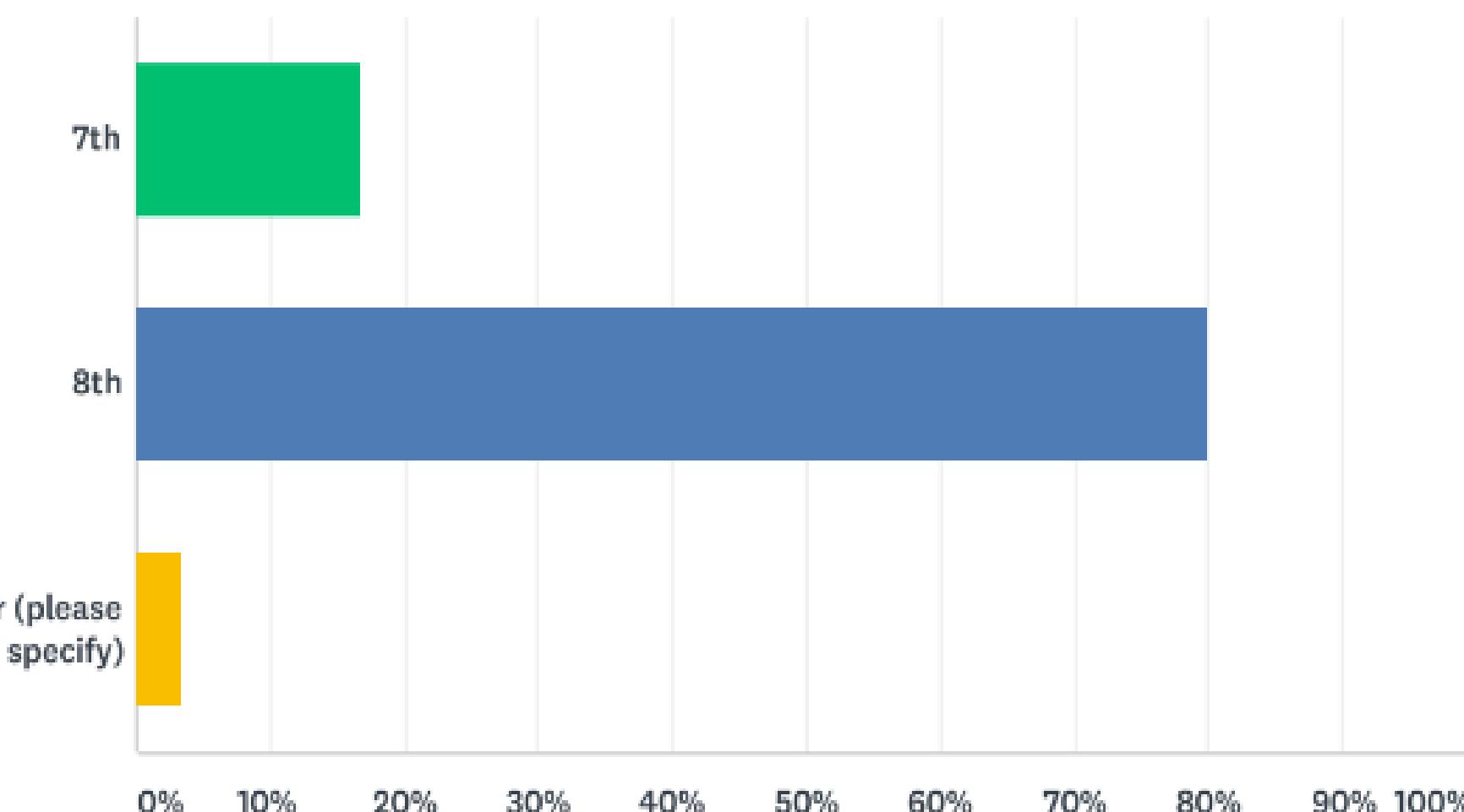
## Materials/Methods

- In July 2018, a survey was sent to the over 700 radiation oncology practices accredited by the ACR Radiation Oncology Practice Accreditation (ROPA) Program via an emailed link. The primary question was "Which edition of the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual are you currently using at your facility?" The choices were 7th Edition, 8th Edition, or other. After getting responses to this question, a followup survey was sent asking, "Which of the following tools are you using to document patient staging?" The choices included Epic, Cerner, AllScripts, Mosaiq, Aria, a mobile application, or manually from the staging book.

## 7<sup>th</sup> vs 8<sup>th</sup> AJCC Staging

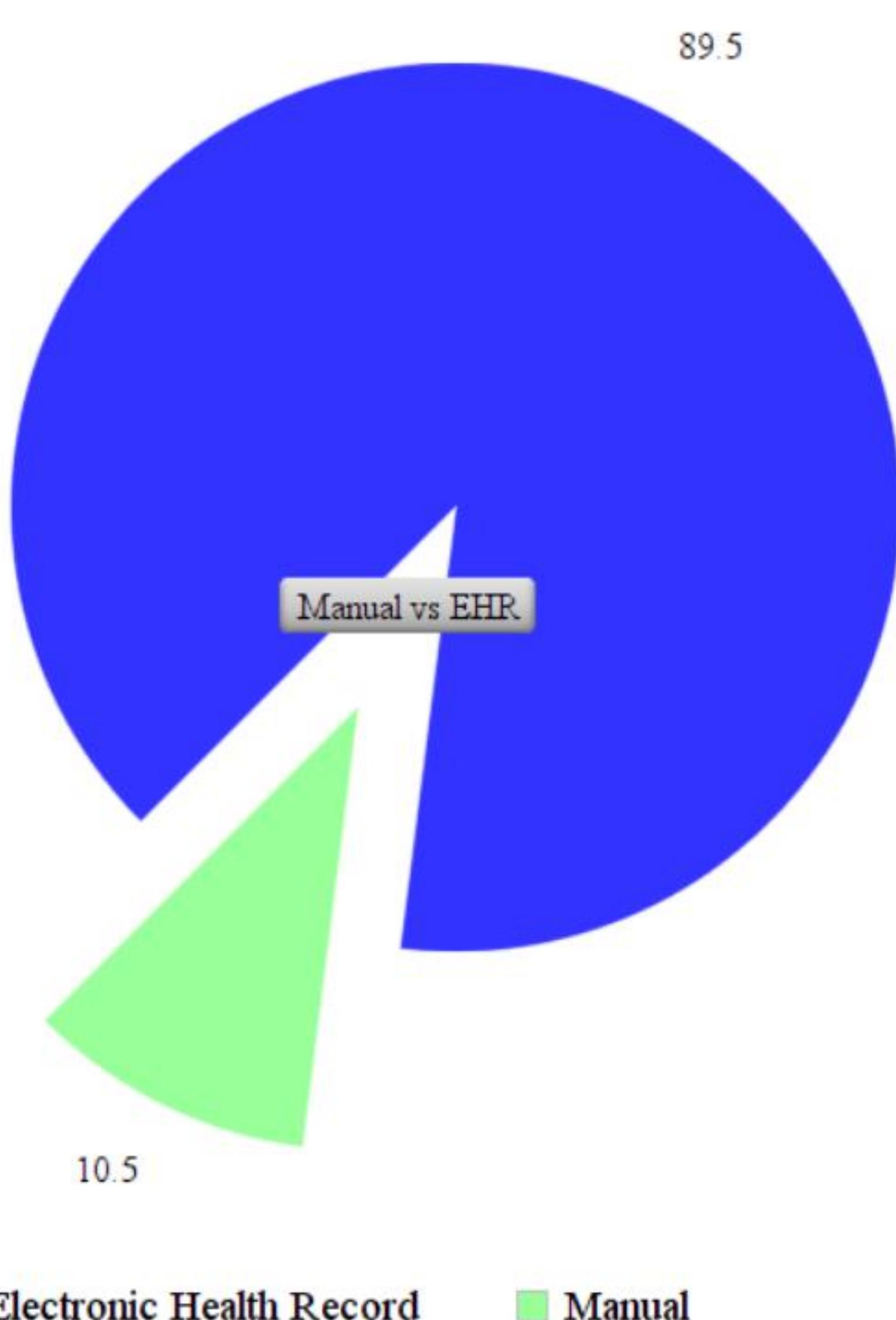
Q1 Which edition of the AJCC Cancer Staging Manual are you currently using at your facility?

Answered: 150 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
7th	16.67% 25
8th	80.00% 120
Other (please specify)	3.33% 5
TOTAL	150

## Percent Using EHR vs Manual Staging



@j\_luh

## Results

- Out of the over 700 sites emailed, 150 responded to the initial question on the edition staging manual the facility was using. The sites still using 7th edition staging totaled 25 (16.67%) and sites using 8th edition staging totaled 120 (80.0%). Five sites responded that they were using another staging standard (3.33%).
- For the followup survey, 114 sites responded, with the majority of sites relying on their EHR. (102 sites, 89.5%) compared to manually from the staging book (12 sites, 10.5%).
- Free text comments from respondents are shown below:

Showing 7 responses

OncoEMR

7/15/2018 5:26 PM [Add tags](#) -View respondent's answers

My memory and google

7/13/2018 5:01 PM [Add tags](#) -View respondent's answers

OncoChart

7/13/2018 9:42 AM [Add tags](#) -View respondent's answers

We are using Mosaiq, Epic and Aria to document patient staging

7/12/2018 4:47 PM [Add tags](#) -View respondent's answers

Manually in Mosaiq until we upgrade

7/12/2018 4:15 PM [Add tags](#) -View respondent's answers

MOSAIQ ICD 10

7/12/2018 3:44 PM [Add tags](#) -View respondent's answers

Though we also use ARIA, ARIA is not current with the 8th edition

7/12/2018 3:40 PM

## Conclusions

- The majority of ACR ROPA Program accredited facilities responding to our survey have started staging patients using the AJCC 8th Edition Staging Manual, despite the increased complexity. The majority are using their EHR's to stage patients as opposed to using printed text.