



## Monthly Newsletter From the International Clearinghouse

August 2015

Issue 2015-08

### What's Going on Regarding Birth Defects

#### Use of Special Education Services among Children with Congenital Heart Defects

New CDC study findings in *Pediatrics* show that children with [congenital heart defects](#) (CHDs) received special education services more often than children without birth defects. These findings highlight the need for special education services and the importance of [developmental screening](#) for all children with CHDs, with involvement from state policymakers and school systems. CDC encourages you to share these links with your colleagues and friends. Feel free to post them on your own home page as well. Please share on your social media channels or share/retweet/favorite from [@CDC\\_NCBDDD](#). Access to the article: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2015/08/11/peds.2015-0259.abstract>

The **7th International Conference on the Prevention of Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World (ICBD7: Birth Defects in the Post-MDG Era: Joining Hands for Prevention and Care)** will take place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, September 21-24, 2015. Registration at <http://www.icbd2015.com/>

The **9th International Neural Tube Defects Conference** will be held in Austin, Texas, October 26 (opening reception 5-7pm) - October 29. For additional information about the meeting and abstract submissions visit the conference website at <http://ntdconference.com>

### News from Members

No news was received from members this month. Please send progresses or news in your program for next Newsletter to [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org).

### News from the Headquarters and Executive Committee

It is with sad hearts the ICBDSR must announce the passing of **Andrew Czeizel** from Hungary on 10 August 2015. Dr. Czeizel was involved with the ICBDSR from 1974 (as a founding member of the Clearinghouse) to the present. He was well known for his tireless work to improve our understanding in the etiology and pathogenesis of birth defects, and their prevention, with more than 300 publications to his credit. Our thoughts are with his family. Correspondence shall be sent to the following addresses:  
H-1026 Budapest, Törökvész lejtő 32  
[zmerhala@fetaldiagnosis.hu](mailto:zmerhala@fetaldiagnosis.hu)

The **2015 ICBDSR Annual Meeting and Workshop on Congenital Heart Defects (Spoleto, Italy, Sep 10-13)** is quickly approaching and the final program is ready to be distributed and posted on the ICBDSR website. Please contact Simonetta Zezza at [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org) for any last minute information. Please, remember that even if you are unable to attend the meeting, you can participate in the Business Meeting by providing a proxy in favor of another ICBDSR member who will represent your program at the meeting.

### Upcoming Deadlines

- **August 31:** ICBDSR Members are kindly asked to send a short **report** of half a page **on the activities of your Surveillance System during the last year**, in order to publish it on the restricted area of the website, to make it available for all ICBDSR Members, for the Annual Business Meeting.
- **August 31:** data for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2014