



## International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research Monthly Newsletter

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### What's Going on Regarding Birth Defects

- The **Risk Communication and Community Engagement** of the **World Health Organization** put together the following information resource to help us stay informed about Zika:
  - ✓ Links to the 'Zika App'. This app provides rapid, easy access information in multiple languages.  
iOS version: <https://itunes.apple.com/en/app/who-zika-app/id1090088404?mt=8>  
Android version: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.universaldocor.zika>
  - ✓ A link to the situation reports (updated each Wednesday): <http://www.who.int/emergencies/zika-virus/situation-report/en/>
  - ✓ A link to the WHO main Zika website with fact sheets and other resources you may find useful: <http://www.who.int/emergencies/zika-virus/en/>
- [NIH creates Atlas of Human Malformation Syndromes in Diverse Populations](#). Photographic resource will aid diagnosing genomic diseases in patients of non-European ancestry.
- Twenty-five years ago the randomized control trial that confirmed that folic acid would prevent most neural tube birth defects was published in The Lancet. Sir Nicholas Wald led that study, and now he reflects on progress toward fortifying flour with folic acid. He has compared the lack of progress in the European Union in particular to "having the polio vaccine and refusing to use it". See more: [http://www.ffinetwork.org/about/stay\\_informed/releases/EU\\_Folic\\_Acid.html](http://www.ffinetwork.org/about/stay_informed/releases/EU_Folic_Acid.html)
- The **Teratology Society Annual Meeting** will be held on 25-29 June 2016 in San Antonio, Texas. Please visit <http://www.teratology.org/meetings/2016/> for further information. Late Breaking Abstracts deadline: June 4, 2016.

### News from the ICBDsr Centre and Executive Committee

- The **preliminary report** of the **2016 World Birth Defects Day** is available on the ICBDsr website. Please go to <http://www.icbdsr.org/page.asp?p=21751&l=1> for downloading the summary report and the reports by area/country. We apologize for any possible mistake and/or missing information. We would really appreciate if everyone could check the information on the report and inform us at [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org) about any activity to be added, updated or corrected. Thanks again to all the participating organizations!
- **43<sup>rd</sup> ICBDsr Annual Meeting**: to be held in Magdeburg, Germany, from 18 to 21 September 2016. The Call for Abstracts and relevant information on meeting venue, registration and hotel reservation are available at [www.icbdsr.org](http://www.icbdsr.org). **Please note that deadline for abstract submission has been postponed to May 31, 2016.** A registration form was disseminated, in order to help us to organize logistics and social events. Please fill in the registration form and send it back to [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org) by June 30, 2016.
- **ICBDsr Mortality Study**: two-thirds of participating programs provided their data up to now. The missing programs are kindly requested to send data ASAP at [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org) -or inform us about their preferred deadline. The Principal Investigators need to have the full data-set before starting their work on data.
- **Distinguished Service Award, 2016**: This award honors an individual who has provided distinguished service to the International Clearinghouse. Info at <http://www.icbdsr.org/page.asp?n=dsa>. **Deadline** for nominations: **May 31, 2016**