



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

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**44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research**, Austin, Texas, November 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (venue: Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol). Information on meeting's program, registration, and logistics at <http://www.icbdsr.org/44th-annual-meeting-of-the-clearinghouse/>. Please, contact [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org) if you need any additional information.

### What's Going on Regarding Birth Defects

A paper from Public Health of England (PHE) on **Development and progress of the National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Disease Registration Service** has been recently published in the Archives of Disease in Childhood. PHE launched the National Congenital Anomaly and Rare Disease Registration Service (NCARDRS) on 1 April 2015. NCARDRS incorporated the existing seven regional congenital anomaly registers and the National Down Syndrome Cytogenetic Register. In those parts of the country where there was no data collection new regional teams have been established, so there is now national coverage. NCARDRS is a much-needed resource to improve patient care, inform healthcare planning, for the development of public health policies and interventions, and to develop research in the fields of congenital anomalies and rare diseases. Full citation at <http://adc.bmj.com/content/early/2017/10/24/archdischild-2017-312833>. Full paper available upon request at [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org)

Authors of a paper published in the Journal of Community Genetics developed a tool-The **Modell Global Database of Congenital Disorders (MGDb)**- that combines general biological principles and available observational data with demographic data, to generate estimates of the birth prevalence and effects of interventions on mortality and disability due to congenital disorders. MGDb aims to support policy development by generating country, regional and global epidemiological estimates. **An overview of concepts and approaches used in estimating the burden of congenital disorders globally**. *J Community Genet.* 2017 Oct 11. [Epub ahead of print]. Abstract available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29022220>

A systematic literature review on "**Maternal Use of Weight Loss Products and the Risk of Neural Tube Defects in Offspring**" has been published on Birth Defects Research, 2017 Oct 12. [Epub ahead of print] See <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29024488>. Authors conducted a systematic search, using Ovid MEDLINE and PubMed, to identify studies that evaluated the association between products used for weight loss and the risk of NTDs.

### News from ICBDSR members

The 2017 Annual Report from RENAC-Ar (Red Nacional de Anomalías Congénitas de Argentina) has been published. The report is available for download at <http://www.anlis.gov.ar/cenagem/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/REPORTE-RENAC-2017-formato-web.pdf>

## Meetings and Conferences



**2<sup>nd</sup> Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies (jENS)**, Venice, Italy, October 31<sup>st</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Full information at <http://www.mcascientificevents.eu/jens-2017/>



**8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World (ICBD-8)**, Bogotá, Colombia, 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Visit <http://icbd.marchofdimes.org/> for information on the Conference.



ICBDSR and CDC-National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities are organizing a **Workshop on Birth Defects and Zika-related malformations Surveillance**, on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017, in Bogotá, Colombia (the day prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World). The primary aim of the workshop is to inform participants about the importance of birth defects surveillance and how selected birth defects are captured by surveillance systems. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn more about congenital Zika syndrome and how surveillance systems in Central and South America have been capturing Zika-related malformations. The online pre-workshop modules have been already released.



**III International Congress of Community Genetics**, organized by the Cuban Society of Human Genetics, held in Havana, Cuba, November 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Under the slogan "Community Genetics in the Age of Genomics Medicine: Prevention is the Challenge", the scientific meeting plans to share experiences, show the progress of human and medical genetics in Cuba and other countries, and reflect on the application of results from the revolution of genomics new technologies in primary health care, for prevention. Registration are open at <http://geneticacomunitaria2017.sld.cu>

**7th ICCN - International Conference on Clinical Neonatology**, May 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> 2018, Turin, Italy. Main Topics: Hypothermia in preterms: what's new?; Teamworking in the NICU; NIDCAP and family-centered care; EPO and neuroprotection: an update ; Delivery of fetal CHD patients. Abstracts submission is now open at <http://www.mcascientificevents.eu/iccn2018/>

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