



International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research Monthly Newsletter

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What's Going on Regarding Birth Defects

The results from a population-based cohort study of all liveborn boys in Western Australia during 1970–99 was published in *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health*. The cohort comprised 350,835 boys who were followed up until 2016 via data linkage to registries for hospital admissions, congenital anomalies, cancer, and assisted reproductive technologies (ART). Birth defect included hypospadias and undescended testes, and study outcomes were testicular cancer, paternity, and use of ART for male infertility. The study shows that undescended testes was associated with an increased risk of testicular cancer and male infertility, and decreased paternity. Authors provide new evidence to support current guidelines for orchidopexy before age 18 months to decrease the risk of future testicular cancer and infertility.

Association between male genital anomalies and adult male reproductive disorders: a population-based data linkage study spanning more than 40 years. Lancet Child Adolesc Health. 2018 Oct;2(10):736-743. doi: 10.1016/S2352-4642(18)30254-2. Epub 2018 Aug 30.

PDF available upon request at centre@icbdsr.org

A recent review published in the *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* aimed to evaluate current data on folate status of women of reproductive age. Authors queried eight databases and the World Health Organization Micronutrients Database, identifying 45 relevant surveys conducted from 2000-2014 in 39 countries. Several types of folate assays were used in the analysis of blood folate, and many surveys used folate cutoffs not matched to the assay. To allow better comparisons across surveys, the authors attempted to account for these differences.

Global folate status in women of reproductive age: a systematic review with emphasis on methodological issues. Ann N Y Acad Sci. 2018 Sep 21. doi: 10.1111/nyas.13963. [Epub ahead of print]

PDF available at <https://nyaspubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/nyas.13963>



World Birth Defects Day - WBDD

WBDD Organizations who have not yet filled the application form for the 2019 WBDD Partnership are kindly requested to fill out the form at <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/application-form/> in order to be included among those participating in the 2019 Edition of the WBDD.

All the WBDD Charter and Participating Organizations are invited to attend the WBDD meeting planned for Sunday, September 30th (2:00 pm - 6:00 pm) at Hotel Olšanka in Prague, Czech Republic (the day before the ICBDSR Annual Meeting). ICBDSR welcomes all participants to attend the entire ICBDSR Annual Meeting. Full information at <http://www.icbdsr.org/45th-icbdsr-annual-meeting/>

Follow @WBDD on Twitter <https://twitter.com/wbdday>,

Join WBDD page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WBDDay/>

Visit WBDD website <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/>

News from the ICBDSR Centre, Executive Committee, and ICBDSR Members

We are glad to announce that the paper "**Value of sharing and networking among birth defects surveillance programs: an ICBDSR perspective**" was published in *Journal of Community Genetics*.

Value of sharing and networking among birth defects surveillance programs: an ICBDSR perspective.

J Community Genet. 2018 Sep 18. doi: 10.1007/s12687-018-0387-z. [Epub ahead of print]

e-Offprint (PDF file) is available for download for three weeks at <http://www.springer.com/home?SGWID=0-0-1003-0-0&agId=3604097&download=1&checkval=429b747a351fff55dcb49b69f4b6fc78>

After three weeks, a PDF copy can be requested at centre@icbdsr.org

Dr. Lorenzo Botto attended the **Birth Defects Surveillance Advisory Group Meeting** September 18-19, 2018 at the **WHO** Headquarters, as representative of ICBDSR.

The objectives of the meeting were:

- ✓ To review WHO HQ's planned work on birth defects surveillance and strengthening surveillance for congenital Zika syndrome, including mapping of surveillance systems and tools
- ✓ To share existing tools, materials and experience
- ✓ To agree on a plan of work and way forward

45th ICBDSR Annual Meeting

The 2018 ICBDSR Annual Meeting will take place in Prague, Czech Republic, from September 30th to October 4th

The agenda for the meeting, and information on registration and logistics are available at

<http://www.icbdsr.org/45th-icbdsr-annual-meeting/>.

Online Self-paced Course on Birth Defect Surveillance and Prevention

The online course is still available for interested professionals. The course has been developed by the International Centre on Birth Defects (ICBD – ICBDSR Centre), and supported in part by funding from the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through Agreement 2016-2017 with the Task Force for Global Health. The course is designed for clinicians, epidemiologists, public health professionals, and anyone interested in understanding birth defects and improving their prevention and care. The course includes videos, quizzes, a discussion forum, and publications/resources. The course is available in English and Spanish. Further information at <http://www.icbdsr.org/online-self-paced-course-on-birth-defect-surveillance-and-prevention/> and the registration form is available at www.icbdsr.org/course-registration. Once registered, you will receive access credentials and can begin the self-paced course at your own convenience.

Meetings and Conferences

The Neonate 2018 – 2nd International Symposium for Asia. November 23-25, 2018, Shanghai, China.

<https://www.mcascentificevents.eu/the-neonate/>

Congenital CMV - From Pregnancy to Infancy: Let's Face It. February 21-22, 2019, Florence, Italy.

<https://www.mcascentificevents.eu/cmV/>

2nd International Congress on Advanced Treatments in Rare Diseases (RARE2019). March 4-5, 2019, Vienna, Austria. <http://www.rare2019.com/>

2nd World Congress on Maternal Fetal Neonatal Medicine. April 4-6, 2019, London, United Kingdom.

<https://www.mcascentificevents.eu/worldmfnm/>

ECPCA - European Cleft Palate Craniofacial Association. June 12-15, 2019, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Theme of the 2019 congress is "*Future perspectives in research & therapy*". <http://ecpca.eu/>

3rd Congress of joint European Neonatal Societies. September 17-21, 2019, Maastricht, The Netherlands.

<https://www.mcascentificevents.eu/jens/>