



International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research Monthly Newsletter

April 2019

Issue 2019 - 4



March 3rd, World Birth Defects Day - WBDD Movement

Once again, our thanks to the WBDD Partner Organizations for their active participation in the fifth annual WBDD on March 3, 2019.

At <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/activities/>, you will find any initiative, event, or activity performed by WBDD Partners. Please note that to have an event qualify as a "WBDD event", it must be performed during **January 1 through April 30, 2019**. Send information on your event to pierpaolo.mastroiacovo@gmail.com to have it posted on the WBDD website.

Review examples of events at <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/organize-an-event/>.

After April 30th the WBDD Steering Group will assign the recognition of activity done to mark the fifth annual of WBDD.

Platinum Partners: WBDD-Partners that fulfilled at least three tasks

- ✓ organized a significant local activity (e.g. professional meeting, public health education meeting, a policy improvement activity involving Public Health Decision Makers and/or Research Funding Organizations)
- ✓ posted the WBDD logo on their organization's home page (or on a suitable section) linked to information on birth defects (in English and/or in their native language) or to the WBDD web
- ✓ actively supported the WBDD through social media.

Gold Partners: WBDD-Partners that fulfilled at least two tasks

- ✓ posted the WBDD logo on their organization's home page (or on a suitable section) linked to information on birth defects (in English and/or in their native language) or to the WBDD web,
- ✓ actively supported the WBDD through social media.

Silver Partners: WBDD-Partners that fulfilled one task

- ✓ actively supported the WBDD through social media.

To date, 170 organizations enrolled as Partner Organizations in the WBDD. The full list is available in the WBDD website: <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/partners/>. The enrollment continues, since the WBDD is year long!

Join the WBDD as a Partner Organization

by completing the online application form on the WBDD website
<https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/application-form/>.

Follow @worldbdday on Twitter <https://twitter.com/WorldBDDay> and
Instagram worldbdday <https://www.instagram.com/worldbdday/>

Join WBDD page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WBDDay/>
Visit WBDD website <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/>

What's Going on Regarding Birth Defects: a selection from the recent literature

All readers are kindly invited to contribute to this section of the Newsletter, sending their suggestions to centre@icbdsr.org by the 1st Friday of the month.

[Life situation of women impaired by Thalidomide embryopathy in North Rhine-Westphalia - a comparative analysis of a recent cross-sectional study with earlier data.](#)

Samel C, Albus C, Nippert I, Niecke A, Lungen M, Pfaff H, Peters KM. BMC Womens Health. 2019 Apr 3;19(1):51. doi: 10.1186/s12905-019-0745-y.

[Analysis of the Seasonal Trend of Congenital Heart Defects.](#)

Dong Y, Zhang Y, Tong S, Jiang Z, Xu Z, Li X, Wang W. J Pediatr. 2019 Apr;207:29-33.e1. doi: 10.1016/j.jpeds.2018.12.024.

[Sociodemographic, health behavioral, and clinical risk factors for anotia/microtia in a population-based case-control study.](#)

Ryan MA, Olshan AF, Canfield MA, Hoyt AT, Scheuerle AE, Carmichael SL, Shaw GM, Werler MM, Fisher SC, Desrosiers TA; National Birth Defects Prevention Study. Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol. 2019 Mar 23;122:18-26. doi: 10.1016/j.ijporl.2019.03.026. [Epub ahead of print]

[Prevalence of selected birth defects by maternal nativity status, United States, 1999-2007.](#)

Kirby RS, Mai CT, Wingate MS, Janevic T, Copeland GE, Flood TJ, Isenburg J, Canfield MA; National Birth Defects Prevention Network. Birth Defects Res. 2019 Mar 28. doi: 10.1002/bdr2.1489. [Epub ahead of print]

[A propensity-matched study of the association between optimal folic acid supplementation and birth defects in Shaanxi province, Northwestern China.](#)

Qu P, Li S, Liu D, Lei F, Zeng L, Wang D, Yan H, Shi W, Shi J, Dang S. Sci Rep. 2019 Mar 27;9(1):5271. doi: 10.1038/s41598-019-41584-5.

[Use of benzodiazepine medications during pregnancy and potential risk for birth defects, National Birth Defects Prevention Study, 1997-2011.](#)

Tinker SC, Reefhuis J, Bitsko RH, Gilboa SM, Mitchell AA, Tran EL, Werler MM, Broussard CS; National Birth Defects Prevention Study. Birth Defects Res. 2019 Mar 19. doi: 10.1002/bdr2.1497. [Epub ahead of print]

[Hypospadias Risk from Maternal Residential Exposure to Heavy Metal Hazardous Air Pollutants.](#)

White JT, Kovar E, Chambers TM, Sheth KR, Peckham-Gregory EC, O'Neill M, Langlois PH, Jorgez CJ, Lupo PJ, Seth A. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2019 Mar 15;16(6). pii: E930. doi: 10.3390/ijerph16060930.

[Temporal trends in diagnoses of congenital microcephaly, Texas Hospital Discharge Diagnoses, 2000-2015.](#)

Waller DK, Tark JY, Agopian AJ, Shewale J, Ganduglia-Cazaban C, Hoyt AT, Scheuerle AE, Langlois PH. Birth Defects Res. 2019 Mar 12. doi: 10.1002/bdr2.1491. [Epub ahead of print]

[The association between Zika virus infection and microcephaly in Brazil 2015-2017: An observational analysis of over 4 million births.](#)

Brady OJ, Osgood-Zimmerman A, Kassebaum NJ, Ray SE, de Araújo VEM, da Nóbrega AA, Frutuoso LCV, Lecca RCR, Stevens A, Zoca de Oliveira B, de Lima JM Jr, Bogoch II, Mayaud P, Jaenisch T, Mokdad AH, Murray CJL, Hay SI, Reiner RC Jr, Marinho F. PLoS Med. 2019 Mar 5;16(3):e1002755. doi: 10.1371/journal.pmed.1002755. eCollection 2019 Mar.

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

Online Self-Paced Course on Birth Defect Surveillance and Prevention

The online course remains 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. It is available in English and Spanish. To date, 165 applicants from 41 countries have participated in the course. Further information is available at <http://www.icbdsr.org/online-self-paced-course-on-birth-defect-surveillance-and-prevention/>. The registration form is available at www.icbdsr.org/course-registration. Once registered, you will receive an email with guidance on how to register by yourself in the Course platform www.icbdsrtraining.org and how to self-enroll in the self paced courses in either English or Spanish.

Meetings and Conferences

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

Annual Meeting of the Society for Epidemiology Research (SER), June 18-21, 2019, Minneapolis, Minnesota, US. SER holds an annual meeting in June of each year. The purpose of the annual meeting is to bring together epidemiologists from all stages of their career trajectory—from trainees to senior scientists. <https://epiresearch.org/annual-meeting/2019-meeting/>

59th Annual Meeting of the Teratology Society, June 22–26, 2019, San Diego, California, US. The theme for the meeting is “*Sea Changes in Birth Defects Research and Prevention*”. The program offers an exciting variety of scientific sessions, and three workshops will be offered: Current Topics and Updates for Pregnancy Registries, Multidisciplinary Research Needs, and Irresponsible Conduct of Research: What Happens When Things Go Wrong. <http://teratology.org/meetings/2019/>

3rd Congress of Joint European Neonatal Societies, September 17-21, 2019, Maastricht, The Netherlands. <https://www.mcascientificevents.eu/jens/>

Shaping the Future in Pediatrics, October 2-4, 2019, Rome (Italy).

Main Conference topics: Translating -omics to routine clinical practice; Which pediatric skills will be enhanced by artificial intelligence; Building the hospital of the future; Digital therapies and digital communication for pediatrics. <https://www.mcascientificevents.eu/shapepediatrics/>

2nd International Comprehensive Cleft Care Workshop: Education for Sustainable Cleft Care, October 16-18, 2019. Hilton Lima Miraflores, Lima, Peru. <https://cleftworkshop.org/>

9th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World (ICBD 2019) – “*Health for all: Accelerate Efforts for Birth Defects Prevention and Care*”. October 23-26, 2019, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Abstracts will be accepted until April 30, 2019 (11:59 pm EST): <https://slma.lk/icbd2019/abstracts/>

13th Asia Pacific Conference on Human Genetics, November 7-9, 2019, Makati Shangri-la Manila, Philippines. The theme of the conference is “*Advancing Translational Medicine and Collaborations in Genomics*.” This conference will bring together an outstanding community of faculty, scientists, researchers, and students from the Asia Pacific region and different parts of the world. Deadline of early bird registration is on July 7, 2019. You may now register [here](#). Abstract Submission is extended to June 7, 2019. Kindly ask secretariat@apchg2019.org for guidelines for abstract submission

SAVE THE DATE – 46th ICBDSR Annual Meeting

The 2019 ICBDSR Annual Meeting will take place in **Bratislava, Slovak Republic** from **September 8-11, 2019**. The meeting will be hosted by the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava, Faculty of Public Health. Go to <http://www.icbdsr.org/46th-icbdsr-annual-meeting/> for travel information, link to hotel booking, registration fee, and social events.

Interested colleagues are invited to submit abstracts for oral and/or poster presentation at the Scientific Sessions of the ICBDSR Annual Meeting.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Birth defects surveillance and related methodological issues
- Epidemiology of specific defects or groups of defects
- Environmental agents and birth defects
- Infectious agents and birth defects
- Lifestyle factors and birth defects
- Medications and birth defects
- Occupational exposures and birth defects
- Molecular genetics / molecular epidemiology / epigenetics and birth defects
- Prenatal screening, early pregnancy / birth / postnatal outcomes
- Newborn screening disorders
- Rare diseases
- Undiagnosed diseases
- Psychosocial impacts of birth defects, quality of life, education and other related issues

The abstract text should not exceed 350 words, excluding the abstract header. The abstract header should include the title, author(s), and affiliation(s). Acronyms and abbreviations should be spelled out on first use. The abstract text should be structured using the following sub-headings: Background/Objectives, Methods, Results, and Discussion. The abstract is to be submitted using the electronic abstract submission form that will be available on the ICBDSR website starting in May. Deadline for submission of abstracts is **May 31st, 2019**.

The Annual Meeting Committee will peer-review the abstracts and will make the final decisions regarding acceptance of abstracts and designated presentation format. You will receive an email of notification regarding acceptance of abstracts by June 30th, 2019.

Website: www.icbdsr.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ICBDSR

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/icbdsr/>

Twitter: @icbdsr <https://twitter.com/ICBDSR>