



International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research Monthly Newsletter

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46th ICBDSR Annual Meeting

The 2019 ICBDSR Annual Meeting took place in **Bratislava, Slovak Republic** from **September 8-11, 2019**. The ICBDSR graciously thanks the representatives of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava and the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic for hosting the Meeting,

The 61 participants came from 44 Institutions located in 22 countries. The Oral Sessions included the annual "*J. David Erickson Lecture*" from Mark A. Canfield, Director of the Texas Birth Defects Registry, lectures from NBDPN, EUROCAT and Joint Research Centre representatives, presentations on prevalence, descriptive epidemiology, survival, surveillance methods, and risk factors for birth defects and rare diseases, a poster session, and a Scientific Session with speakers from Slovak Medical University, Slovak Academy of Science, St Elizabeth University of Health and Social Sciences, and Slovak Alliance for Rare Disease.

The **2019 Distinguished Service Award**, for longstanding excellence, service and leadership in the ICBDSR, was presented to Marcia L Feldkamp from Utah University.



2020 ICBDSR Annual Meeting

The 47th ICBDSR Annual Meeting will be held in Bologna, Italy, at the Relais Bellaria Hotel & Congressi., from October 5 to 7, 2020. The meeting will be hosted by the Italy Emilia Romagna (IMER) registry, Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna. Further information will be disseminated at a later time.



World Birth Defects Day - WBDD Movement

Some WBDD Partner Organization representatives and interested colleagues met at the **WBDD meeting**, held on Sunday, September 8th, 2019 at the Park Inn by Radisson Danube Hotel in Bratislava (the day before the ICBDSR Annual Meeting). The meeting was chaired by Boris Groisman (Argentina, ICBDSR Executive Committee Vice-Chair), and Cara Mai and Danielle Winkler (USA Atlanta, CDC).

A presentation about WBDD also was delivered during the opening session of the meeting. It is impressive the increase in the number of participating organizations year after year, from the 12 Charter organizations in the first edition in 2015, to the 176 Partner organizations in the most recent edition in 2019. A detailed report of the WBDD social media activities also was presented.

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.

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What's Going on Regarding Birth Defects: initiatives and announcements

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Become part of the GCM/NCD!

WHO is pleased to announce the re-opening of the pre-registration form to become a Participant of the WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (GCM/NCD). Interested entities are invited to apply to join a diverse group of participants comprising WHO Member States, United Nations organizations, and non-State actors around a shared goal to support countries to reduce premature mortality and unnecessary suffering from NCDs. Participants are entities that have applied and been confirmed to join the GCM/NCD, based on clear eligibility and selection criteria. They are committed and active partners who bring knowledge and experience to support the actions and efforts by countries at the local, national, regional, and global levels to prevent and control NCDs. Please note, only entities, not individuals, are eligible and may become Participants of the GCM/NCD.

Pre-register via Knowledge Action Portal (KAP) and following the steps:

1. Visit www.who.int/kap and click the profile icon on the top right of the screen and 'create new account'.
2. Complete the registration form.
3. If approved, you will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours where you can create your account password.
4. Once you have logged onto your profile, click on the profile icon and then select 'settings' where you will see the 'GCM/NCD Participant Zone'.
5. Click on the relevant entity and complete the form as instructed.

All applications will be assessed against the eligibility and selection criteria, with applicants receiving notification of the decisions.

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

42nd Annual Meeting of the Spanish Collaborative Study of Congenital Malformations, and Update Course on Birth Defects Research

Place: Córdoba (Spain)

Date: October 17-19, 2019.

Scientific program: <http://www.fundacion1000.es/IMG/pdf/-64.pdf>

Registration: <http://www.fundacion1000.es/IMG/pdf/-63.pdf>

Language: Spanish.

More Information: <http://www.fundacion1000.es/Reunion-Anual-del-ECMC-October,253>

Don't miss it!

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 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, 174 applicants from 42 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 course in either English or Spanish.

Meetings and Conferences

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

Main Conference topics: Advances in clinical pediatrics and precision medicine; Artificial intelligence in the clinic; Building the hospital of the future; Digital therapies and digital communication for pediatrics; Startup pitch 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/>

14th Meeting of the International Conference on Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs" (ICORD), November 11-13, 2019, Israel. The Conference is held with the collaboration of ICORD and Israel Ministry of Health. ICORD is an International Society for all individuals active in rare diseases and/or orphan drugs, including health care,

research, academic, industry, patients, patient groups, regulatory authorities, health authorities, and public policy professionals. For further information please visit the ICORD conference website at: www.icord2019.org. Please follow the Conference on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and share.

9th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World (ICBD 2020) February 23-26, 2020. Colombo, Sri Lanka. <http://icbd.marchofdimes.org/>

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 register [here](#).

28th International Conference on Clinical Pediatrics, April 15-16, 2020 London, UK . Theme: Enlightening the New Horizons in Clinical Pediatrics. <https://clinicalpediatrics.conferenceseries.com/>