



International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research Monthly Newsletter

February 2020

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SAVE THE DATE - 2020 ICBDSR Annual Meeting

The 47th ICBDSR Annual Meeting will be held in Bologna, Italy, at the Relais Bellaria Hotel & Congressi, from **October 5** through **7, 2020**. The meeting will be hosted by the Italy Emilia Romagna (IMER) registry and Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna. A Scientific Session on congenital heart defects will be held at the Conference Hall of the Emilia Romagna Region Health Authority on Tuesday, October 6. A preliminary program and information on hotel reservations and registration is on the [ICBDSR website](#). Please note the deadline for hotel booking and registration is **May 30, 2020**.



World Birth Defects Day - WBDD Movement

The theme of the 2020 Edition of the World Birth Defects Day is **“Many birth defects one voice”** and primary hashtags are #WorldBDDay and #ManyBirthDefects1Voice (Spanish: #DiaMundialDefectosCongenitos, #MuchosDefectosCongenitos1Voz)

LIVE events:

- **Twitter LIVE CHAT** on Tuesday, March 3rd at 11 am EST – 5 pm CET
- **Facebook/Instagram LIVE CHAT** on Tuesday, March 3rd at 1pm EST – 7 pm CET

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: initiatives and announcements

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.

Santé Publique France – Public Health France

Scientific Expert Committee on TAUL. Initial Report on Transverse Agenesis of the Upper Limbs (TAUL). Anses. Santé publique France. July 2019. The **Scientific Expert Committee Report on Transverse Agenesis of the Upper Limbs (TAUL)** is now available in English. The report is available for download [here](#)

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, **276 trainees** from **57 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.

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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Meetings and Conferences

9th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World (ICBD 2020) February 23-26, 2020. Cinnamon Grand Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Recognizing the need to build capacity in lower-income countries for the prevention of birth defects and preterm birth and care of those affected, the goal of these biennial conferences has been to provide specific practical tools and approaches that developing country participants can use to implement and strengthen surveillance and health care delivery and influence policy and funding in support when they return to their respective countries. Registration is open: <http://icbd.marchofdimes.org/>.

International Conference on Preventive Medicine & Public Health, March 5-6, 2020 Rome, Italy. Theme: Science-based resolutions addressing global pervasive & preventable health issues. <https://preventivemedicine.healthconferences.org/>.

National Birth Defects Prevention Network Annual Meeting (2020), March 9 – 11, 2020, Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, Arlington, VA 22202, US

The National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) will hold its 23rd Annual Meeting from March 9-11, 2020 in Arlington, VA with a pre-conference training to be held on March 8, 2020. As the only national conference for population-based birth defects surveillance programs in the United States, participants are given an opportunity to learn about current advances and opportunities for birth defects surveillance, research, intervention, and prevention through sharing of best practices at local, state, and national levels. The issues covered at this meeting are vitally important to advance the work of birth defects surveillance.

Topics covered include:

- National standards for birth defects surveillance
- Birth defects surveillance systems response to emerging health issues
- Clinical sessions on disorders of the head and brain
- Analytic methods for birth defects surveillance
- Birth defects prevention strategies
- National Birth Defects Prevention Study research projects
- Responding to community concerns

Meeting registration (on or before February 14, 2020) is \$350. Registration after February 14, 2020 will be \$400. Registration for one-day attendees is as follows: Monday, March 9 and Tuesday, March 10 will be \$160 each day; Wednesday, March 11 will be \$80. The pre-meeting training is an additional \$50. There is a \$50 cancellation fee if the cancellation occurs on or before February 14, 2020. Barring unforeseen circumstances, no refunds will be issued after this date. To register for the meeting or the pre-conference training ([click here](#)). For questions about the meeting or pre-conference training, contact NBDPN at nbdpn@nbdpn.org.^{11th}

Annual Clinical Genetics Meeting of the American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG), March 17-21, 2020 San Antonio, TX, USA. <https://www.acmgmeeting.net/acmg2020/Public/mainhall.aspx>.

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

60th Annual Meeting of the Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention, June 27–July 1, 2020, Charleston Marriott, Charleston, South Carolina, USA. The theme for this year’s meeting is “Honoring Teratology’s Roots, Growing a Healthier Future”. The program offers an exciting variety of scientific sessions on topics including:

- Effects of water fluoridation on neurodevelopment
- Experimental animal studies in counseling
- Developmental neurotoxicity of methylmercury
- Investigation of a potential outbreak of birth defects
- Gene therapy, CRISPR/Cas9 technology, breakthroughs, and ethical challenges
- Opioid use in pregnancy
- Embryogenesis at high-resolution
- Perinatal and postnatal exposures to environmental chemicals
- Obesity and metabolic disorders
- Assessing pregnancy risk of immunomodulators
- Innovator award, trainee awards, professional development opportunities

Abstract submission is open now through February 15, 2020.

Visit <https://www.birthdefectsresearch.org/meetings/2020/> for full information

EUROCAT Registry Leader Meeting, June 30-July 1, 2020 Valencia (Spain), and **15th European Symposium on Congenital Anomalies: “Current Approaches to Congenital Anomalies”**, 2nd July 2020, Valencia, Spain. <https://eu-rd-platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/eurocat/news/symposium2020>. The abstract submission deadline is set for February 15, 2020.

World Congress of Epidemiology WCE 2020 on “Methodological Innovations in Epidemiology”, September 13-16, 2019, Melbourne, Australia. <https://wce2020.org/>.