UPDATE ON 2020 ICBDSR ANNUAL MEETING
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 47th ICBDSR Annual Meeting has been postponed to October 2021. The final dates will be released as soon as possible. The meeting venue remains the Relais Bellaria Hotel & Congressi in Bologna (Italy). Updates on the annual meeting will be posted to the ICBDSR website.

NEWS AND UPDATE ON COVID-19
COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation:
• Get the latest public health information from CDC: https://www.coronavirus.gov.
• Get the latest research from NIH: https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus.

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.

WHO Spotlight Webinars for NCD Directors
WHO informs national directors and program managers responsible for Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Ministries of Health that WHO is organizing a series of five webinars on how to address NCDs within the context of COVID-19. You can sign up and find out more information here.

News from Knowledge Action Portal (KAP)
KAP is the community-driven platform for Non Communicable Disease (NCD) information, interaction and inspiration, hosted by WHO.

Campaigns
Campaigns are an important part of NCD work in advocacy and awareness-raising. The COVID-19 public health measures have limited the number of people gathering in groups and many campaigns have been shifted to a digital platform or postponed. Check out the campaign section to get the latest information and updates ahead of the Global Week of NCD Action.
To find the campaigns:
1. Visit www.who.int/kap
2. Find and click on the dropdown menu on the top left of the window
3. Click the "Campaigns" tab
4. Explore and learn more about the various campaigns.

World Birth Defects Day – WBDD, March 3
It’s never to early to apply to be a 2021 WBDD Partner Organization, by completing the online application form on the WBDD website https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/application-form/.
News from the ICBDSR Executive Committee

**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, 335 trainees from 57 countries have joined the online course. Additional information is available at [http://www.icbdsr.org/online-self-paced-course-on-birth-defect-surveillance-and-prevention/](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](http://www.icbdsr.org/course-registration). Once registered, you will receive an email with guidance on how to register in the course platform [www.icbdsrtraining.org](http://www.icbdsrtraining.org) and how to self-enroll in the self-paced course in either English or Spanish.

**Becoming an affiliate member of ICBDSR**
Individuals, organizations, or institutions may apply to become affiliates. Affiliates may collaborate with Clearinghouse members, participate in projects, and attend the ICBDSR Annual Meeting. Candidates for affiliates may include people or teams who are interested in developing a surveillance and prevention program, or are beginning to do so but do not yet meet program membership criteria, as well as graduates from the Training Program in Surveillance and Prevention; professionals, advocates, and organizations with a strong interest and commitment to surveillance and prevention.

Requirements to become an affiliate member:

- ✓ A letter of recommendation sent to centre@icbdsr.org by an ICBDSR program director (check the list of program directors).
- ✓ Submission of the affiliate member’s application form, available at [http://www.icbdsr.org/affiliate-membership-application/](http://www.icbdsr.org/affiliate-membership-application/). Please read the [ICBDSR Bylaws](http://www.icbdsr.org/affiliate-membership-application/) prior to completing the form.

**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*


Meetings and Conferences


World Congress of Epidemiology WCE 2020 on “Methodological Innovations in Epidemiology”, has been postponed to September 3-6, 2021, Melbourne, Australia https://wce2020.org/

EUROCAT Registry Leader Meeting and 15th European Symposium on Congenital Anomalies Considering the development of the pandemic in Europe, after thoughtful deliberations, a decision was made to postpone the EUROCAT Scientific Symposium scheduled to take place on July 2, 2020 in Valencia, Spain. Information about a new date will be available as soon as possible. For questions, please contact: JRC-EUROCAT@ec.europa.eu