ICBDSR ANNUAL MEETING

The 48th ICBDSR Annual Meeting will be held from September 18th to 21st, 2022 in Bologna, Italy, at Hotel Relais Bellaria. It will be an in-person meeting with the possibility to join the scientific session by live stream.

We invite you to submit abstracts for oral and/or poster presentation at the ICBDSR Annual Meeting. The oral sessions at the Meeting will be thematic; thus, abstract topics should fit one of the following thematic areas:

- Birth defect surveillance and descriptive epidemiology (including surveillance methodology)
- Risk factors for birth defects
- Rare disease
- Covid-19 and reproductive outcomes
- Impact of the pandemic on birth defects surveillance, prevention, and care

Abstract topics for the poster session may include, but are not limited to:

1. Birth defects surveillance and descriptive epidemiology (including surveillance methodology)
2. Risk factors for birth defects
3. Rare disease
4. Covid-19 and reproductive outcomes
5. Impact of the pandemic on birth defects surveillance, prevention, and care
6. Molecular genetics / molecular epidemiology / epigenetics and birth defects
7. Prenatal screening, early pregnancy / birth / postnatal outcomes
8. Psychosocial impacts of birth defects, quality of life, education and other related issues

Authors of accepted posters may be present either in person or virtually and all will be required to send a pre-recorded presentation of the poster, in order to make it available online.

Authors of an accepted poster who will attend in person are encouraged to bring a traditional poster to allow interactions with colleagues present in person.

The abstract is to be submitted using the electronic abstract submission form on the ICBDSR website. Deadline for submission of abstracts is June 15, 2022.

Information on hotel reservation and registration: http://www.icbdsr.org/48th-icbdsr-annual-meeting/

Please note: deadline for hotel reservation is May 31, 2022

Venues of future Annual Meetings:
2023: Malta
2024: Prague (Czech Republic)
World Birth Defects Day – WBDD, March 3rd

Look at some of the different activities that were done across the world to promote the World Birth Defects Day: [https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/category/partner-activities-examples/](https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/category/partner-activities-examples/)

Continue to raise awareness on birth defects throughout the year!
Join the WBDD partners at [https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/application-form/](https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/application-form/)

Email info@worldbirthdefectsday.org
Follow @worldbdday on Twitter [https://twitter.com/WorldBDDay](https://twitter.com/WorldBDDay) and
Instagram worldbdday [https://www.instagram.com/worldbdday/](https://www.instagram.com/worldbdday/).
Join WBDD page on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/WBDDay/](https://www.facebook.com/WBDDay/).

ICBDSR ALESSANDRA LISI AWARD

We are pleased to announce the 2022 Edition of the “Alessandra Lisi Award”. This award was established in 2007, in memory of Alessandra Lisi, a young researcher at the ICBDSR Coordinating Centre.

Eligibility requirements
- Active contribution to the epidemiology or surveillance of birth defects, preferably with an ICBDSR full member program
- Evidence of a promising research career and ongoing commitment to the field, as demonstrated by high quality publications in peer-reviewed journals, initiating or coordinating research projects, or obtaining funding for research in the field of birth defects epidemiology.
- Candidates must be within seven years of the date from their last formal training in a field directly related to the disciplines of Birth Defects, Developmental Biology, Epidemiology, or Teratology (e.g. degree conferral, postdoctoral fellowship, residency program, etc.)

Application
The application package should be sent electronically to centre@icbdsr.org. See full information at [http://www.icbdsr.org/alessandra-lisi-award/](http://www.icbdsr.org/alessandra-lisi-award/)

Nature of the award
The winner will receive a plaque and a travel stipend to attend the ICBDSR Annual Meeting, held in Bologna, Italy, from 18th to 21st September 2022. The award will be presented at the meeting, during which the awardee will present his/her research on birth defects.

Timeline
- June 30th: Deadline for submitting application
- July 15th: Notification of the winner
- September 19th: Award winner will give his/her presentation at the ICBDSR Annual Meeting

Information on the Award and past Awardees at [http://www.icbdsr.org/alessandra-lisi-award/](http://www.icbdsr.org/alessandra-lisi-award/)

ICBD corner: News and comments from the International Centre on Birth Defects (ICBD)

Looking for your interesting ideas. As you know, we are planning an ICBDSR report on birth defects worldwide, using also data and information from Clearinghouse members submitted as of the end of May. Rather than a series of tables as in the past, we are thinking about focusing on one or few interesting topics. What topics? We are looking for your brilliant ideas as we mull through options – please send them our way at centre@icbdsr.org and be recognized. Also, if you have a young (or less young) investigator willing to help work on ICBD projects, let us know – there could be some support from the ICBD for the right person with the right skills and enthusiasm (contact us with ‘FY23 ICBD’ in the subject line).

For the ICBD,
Lorenzo Botto, ICBD Director
What’s Going on

International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, G4 Alliance and GAPSBi-F
63rd World Health Assembly’s Resolution on Birth Defects that appealed to member states to prioritize prevention of birth defects

International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus
IF International Youth Group is currently looking for new members and a new Chairperson.
The IF International Youth Group, set up in early 2021, is a group of open-minded, young, passionate and fun people with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus (SBH) working together to advocate for the rights of young people with SBH as well as to provide support and raise awareness regarding the issues faced by the SBH youth community. Read more about the IF Youth Group here.
✓ Are you interested in working for youth empowerment?
✓ Are you driven to be part of a big group consisting of internationally located, like-minded people?
✓ Are you passionate about becoming an agent of change for the SBH community?
If you think you embody these values then do not hesitate to join IF Youth Group by simply filling in this form

Indian Institute of Public Health-Delhi (IIPH-Delhi), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI)
The IIPH-Delhi), PHFI, announces the ‘Call for Applications’ for following on-campus academic programs for the session 2022-23.
On-campus academic programs:
✓ Master of Public Health (MPH) (Jointly conducted by PHFI &AcSIR#)
#Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR), an Institute of National Importance established by Act of Parliament
Web link: https://phfi.org/course/master-of-public-health-mph/
✓ Integrated MSc & PhD in Clinical Research - Jointly conducted by PHFI &AcSIR#
#Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR), an Institute of National Importance established by Act of Parliament
Web link: https://phfi.org/course/integrated-msc-phd-in-clinical-research/
✓ Post Graduate Diploma in Public Health Management (PGDPHM)
Limited number of scholarships may be awarded to the deserving and meritorious candidates, subject to availability of funds. For further details and eligibility criteria: https://phfi.org/scholarships/
The program brochures and application forms are available on the website: https://phfi.org/iiph-delhi/on-campus-programs/
The applications may be submitted online or in hard copy. The deadline for applications is **31st May, 2022**.
For any further information, please visit the website www.phfi.org

**A selection from the recent literature, and recommendations from readers**

*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*

**Outcomes and Longitudinal Studies**


**Genetics and Genomics**


**Prevention / Risk Factors**


Infections, including COVID-19


Epidemiology and Surveillance


Recommendations from readers
No recommendation this month

News from 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 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, 551 trainees from 72 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/. Please, register through the online registration form. Once registered, you will receive an email with guidance on how to self-enroll in the self-paced course in either English or Spanish.

COVID-19 DATA

Worldwide: The WHO Coronavirus disease situation dashboard presents official daily counts of COVID-19 cases and deaths worldwide: https://covid19.who.int/. Globally, as of 10:14pm CEST, 20 May 2022, there have been 521,920,560 confirmed cases of COVID-19, including 6,274,323 deaths, reported to WHO. As of 17 May 2022, a total of 12,186,798,032 vaccine doses have been administered.


Europe: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) provides data on the daily number of new reported COVID-19 cases and deaths by EU/EEA https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/cases-2019-ncov-eueea. From 14 March 2022, this page will only be updated every Thursday.


Meetings and Conferences


ATINER 8th Annual International Conference on Public Health, 20-23 June 2022, Athens, Greece. The aim of the conference is to bring together academics and researchers from all areas of Public Health and related disciplines. Both remote (online or pre-recorded) and onsite presentations will be accepted. https://www.atiner.gr/publichealth/

Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention 62nd Annual Meeting, Hyatt Regency Vancouver, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, June 25-29, 2022. The Annual Meeting and Education Courses will take place in-person and will include a virtual experience to make remote participation possible in the event a
registrant cannot attend in person. The theme for this year’s meeting is “From Bench to Bedside and Back Again”. https://www.birthdefectsresearch.org/meetings/2022/


29<sup>th</sup> **International Conference on Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Diverse Needs, Same Rights**, 5-9 September 2022 [updated dates] - online or Hybrid conference, depending on the COVID-19 situation. https://www.ifglobal.org/our-work/if-conferences/

34<sup>th</sup> **Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE)**, 18-21 September 2022, Athens, Greece. https://isee2022.org/


**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the International Neonatology Association Committee (INAC)**, 17 – 20 November 2022, Dubai. https://worldneonatology.com/2022/

Website: [www.icbdsr.org](http://www.icbdsr.org)
ICBDSR training platform: [www.icbdsrtraining.org](http://www.icbdsrtraining.org)
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ICBDSR](http://www.facebook.com/ICBDSR)
Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/icbdsr/](https://www.instagram.com/icbdsr/)
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