



## Monthly Newsletter

**Issue 2022-09**

**September 2022**

### 2022 ICBDSR ANNUAL MEETING

The 48<sup>th</sup> ICBDSR Annual Meeting took place in Bologna, Italy from September 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022.



The ICBDSR thanks the Emilia Romagna Registry on Congenital Malformations (IMER), Alma Mater University of Bologna, and Emilia Romagna Region Health Service for graciously hosting the Meeting.

The 66 participants came from 19 countries. The Oral Sessions included the annual "*J.David Erickson Lecture*" from Cynthia Moore, Consultant at Birth Defect Center, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USA; Lecture from Salimah Walani, Global Policy & Advocacy Advisor, MiracleFeet, USA; lectures from NBDPN, EUROCAT and EUROLINKCAT representatives; oral presentations on birth defect surveillance, descriptive epidemiology, and risk / protective factors; and a poster session.

The ICBDSR thanks the invited speakers, the presenters and all the attendees.

The **Congress on "Congenital Heart Defects: From Prenatal Diagnosis to Adulthood"** took place on the second day of the annual meeting (20 September 2022), with the participation of distinguished experts in the diagnosis and care of congenital heart disease, and with patient and parent representatives. The Congress, held at the Emilia Romagna Region Conference Hall, was attended by over 100 participants.

The **2022 ICBDSR Distinguished Service Award**, for longstanding excellence, service and leadership in the ICBDSR, was presented to Paul A. Romitti from University of Iowa, USA.

#### Venues of future Annual Meetings:

- 2023: Malta, November 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- 2024: Prague (Czech Republic)

## World Birth Defects Day – WBDD, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

The countdown for World Birth Defects Day (WBDD) 2023 has started!

At the ICBDSR Annual Meeting in Bologna there was a fruitful working session to increase partners and their engagement, and to enhance the impact of the World Birth Defects Day.



Join the WBDD partners at <https://www.worldbirthdefectsday.org/application-form/>

Email [info@worldbirthdefectsday.org](mailto:info@worldbirthdefectsday.org)

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/>.

## What's Going on

### International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World – ICBDD 2023

***“Accelerating action for birth defects and disabilities: surveillance, prevention, management and family-centered care”*** – March 1-4, 2023, Santiago, Chile



Deadline for abstracts submission:

30 October 2022

Full information at

<https://www.marchofdimes.org/icbd.aspx>

### *Conference Topics:*

Surveillance, clinical and public health professionals, high-level policy and program personnel from ministries of health, and professional, research and non-governmental associations and organizations working in the field of maternal child health—specifically birth defects and disabilities—are invited to submit abstracts for consideration.

The conference will be organized around these topics, with the focus of each being on the presentation of successful best practices/models of surveillance, prevention, management and care of birth defects and disabilities in Latin America and around the world. Bodies of work from low- and middle-income countries are particularly encouraged.

### **10<sup>th</sup> edition of the World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day**

The International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus warmly invites persons with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus from all over the world as well as all interested parties to celebrate **the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day (WSBHD)** on the topic of “Elevate Your Voice” on October 25 2022. Various activities will take place around the WSBHD22 throughout the month of October. All events, materials, information and latest updates are available on [www.worldspinabifidahydrocephalusday.com](http://www.worldspinabifidahydrocephalusday.com)

### **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](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org) by the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month*

#### ***Risk factors, protective factors***

Adgent MA, Vereen S, McCullough A, Jones SH, Torstenson E, Velez Edwards DR, Hartmann KE, Carroll KN. [Periconceptional folic acid supplementation and child asthma: a Right From the Start follow-up study](#). J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med. 2022 Sep 18;1-7. doi: 10.1080/14767058.2022.2122795. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36117404.

Che X, Liu J, Galea GL, Zhang Y, Greene NDE, Zhang L, Jin L, Wang L, Ren A, Li Z. [Non-Isolated Neural Tube Defects with Comorbid Malformations Are Responsive to Population-Level Folic Acid Supplementation in Northern China](#). Biology (Basel). 2022 Sep 19;11(9):1371. doi: 10.3390/biology11091371. PMID: 36138850; PMCID: PMC9495576.

Taagaard M, Trap Wolf H, Pinborg A, Huusom LD, Høgh S, KvistEkelund C, Kristine Hegaard H, Rode L. [Multivitamin intake and the risk of congenital heart defects: A cohort study](#). Eur J ObstetGynecolReprod Biol. 2022 Sep 11;278:90-94. doi: 10.1016/j.ejogrb.2022.09.008. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36126424.

Rondini KA, Xu W, Chai Y, Pachón H, Kancherla V. [National Mandatory Grain Fortification Legislation Decreases Anemia Prevalence Among Non-Pregnant Women of Reproductive Age: Findings from Multiple Demographic and Health Surveys](#). J Nutr. 2022 Sep 20:nxac217. doi: 10.1093/jn/nxac217. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36130233.

Ou Y, Papadopoulos EA, Fisher SC, Browne ML, Lin Z, Soim A, Lu Y, Sheridan S, Reefhuis J, Langlois PH, Romitti PA, Bell EM, Feldkamp ML, Malik S, Lin S; National Birth Defects Prevention Study. [Interaction of maternal medication use with ambient heat exposure on congenital heart defects in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study](#). Environ Res. 2022 Aug 28;215(Pt 1):114217. doi: 10.1016/j.envres.2022.114217. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36041539.

Luke B, Brown MB, Wantman E, Schymura MJ, Browne ML, Fisher SC, Forestieri NE, Rao C, Nichols HB, Yazdy MM, Gershman ST, Sacha CR, Williams M, Ethen MK, Canfield MA, Doody KJ, Eisenberg ML, Baker VL, Williams C, Sutcliffe AG, Richard MA, Lupo PJ. [The risks of birth defects and childhood cancer with conception by](#)



[assisted reproductive technology](#). Hum Reprod. 2022 Sep 16;deac196. doi: 10.1093/humrep/deac196. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36112004.

Wensink MJ, Mathiesen ER, Lindahl-Jacobsen R, Eisenberg ML. [Preconception Antidiabetic Drugs in Men and Birth Defects in Offspring](#). Ann Intern Med. 2022 Sep;175(9):W107. doi: 10.7326/L22-0233. PMID: 36122399.

Yu B, Zhang CA, Li S, Chen T, Mulloy E, Shaw GM, Eisenberg ML. [Preconception paternal comorbidities and offspring birth defects: Analysis of a large national data set](#). Birth Defects Res. 2022 Sep 15. doi: 10.1002/bdr2.2082. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36106720.

### ***Emerging infections, including Covid-19***

Heidarzadeh M, Taheri M, Mazaheripour Z, Abbasi-Khameneh F. [The incidence of congenital anomalies in newborns before and during the Covid-19 pandemic](#). Ital J Pediatr. 2022 Sep 15;48(1):174. doi: 10.1186/s13052-022-01368-6. PMID: 36109775; PMCID: PMC9479418.

Niemann A, Boudriot A, Brett B, Fritzsche C, Götz D, Haase R, Höhne S, Jorch G, Köhn A, Lux A, Zenker M, Rissmann A. [Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic Regulations on the Health Status and Medical Care of Children with Trisomy 21](#). Klin Padiatr. 2022 Sep 15. English. doi: 10.1055/a-1757-9948. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36108644.

Osoro E, Inwani I, Mugo C, Hunsperger E, Verani JR, Omballa V, Wamalwa D, Rhee C, Nduati R, Kinuthia J, Jin H, Okutoyi L, Mwaengo D, Maugo B, Otieno NA, Mirieri H, Shabibi M, Munyua P, Njenga MK, Widdowson MA. [Prevalence of microcephaly and Zika virus infection in a pregnancy cohort in Kenya, 2017-2019](#). BMC Med. 2022 Sep 14;20(1):291. doi: 10.1186/s12916-022-02498-8. PMID: 36100910; PMCID: PMC9470235.

### ***Epidemiology and Outcomes***

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Sato Y, Yoshioka E, Saijo Y, Kato Y, Nagaya K, Takahashi S, Ito Y, Kobayashi S, AitBamai Y, Yamazaki K, Itoh S, Miyashita C, Ikeda-Araki A, Kishi R; Japan Environment and Children's Study (JECS) Group. [Associated congenital anomalies and syndromes of 248 infants with orofacial clefts born between 2011 and 2014 in the Japan Environment and Children's Study](#). Congenit Anom (Kyoto). 2022 Sep 23. doi: 10.1111/cga.12496. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36151603.

Yang X, Zeng J, Gu Y, Fang Y, Wei C, Tan S, Zhang X. [Birth defects data from hospital-based birth defect surveillance in Guilin, China, 2018-2020](#). Front Public Health. 2022 Aug 24;10:961613. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2022.961613. PMID: 36091541; PMCID: PMC9449144.

### **Recommendations from readers**

No recommendations this month

### **News from ICBDSR Executive Committee and ICBDSR Members**

The ICBD SR plenary session at the Annual Business meeting, held in Bologna (Italy) on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, re-confirmed the Officers for 2022-2023, upon proposal from the ICBD SR Nomination Committee:

- Dr. Boris Groisman, as Chair
- Dr. Anke Rissmann as Vice-Chair
- Dr. Mary Ann Thomas, as Secretary

### **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. 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](#).

### **Meetings and Events**

A list of future Meetings & Events is available at <http://www.icbdsr.org/meetings/>.

All readers are kindly invited to contribute to this section of the Newsletter, sending information about future meetings/events at [centre@icbdsr.org](mailto:centre@icbdsr.org)

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#### **International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research (ICBD SR)**

Website: [www.icbdsr.org](http://www.icbdsr.org)

ICBD SR training platform: [www.icbdsrtraining.org](http://www.icbdsrtraining.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ICBDSR](https://www.facebook.com/ICBDSR)

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