



Monthly Newsletter

October 2024

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World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day (WSBHD) October 25, 2024

The World Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day (WSBHD) has been established and designated by the International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus' (IF) General Meeting in Guatemala in 2011 with the aim of raising awareness and understanding about Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (SBH). It also serves as a means to advocate and promote the rights of persons with these conditions. The WSBHD was held for the first time on 25 October 2012 at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. For more information visit <https://www.worldspinabifidahydrocephalusday.com/>

ICBD corner

Neural tube defects, total, ICBDSR Report 2024

Programs grouped by geography and decreasing prevalence, data 2015-2020 (some programs with fewer years), prevalence per 10,000 births

Legend: Hosp, hospital-based; Pop, population-based; T-incl, terminations of pregnancy included (T-not, not included)

COUNTRY	PROGRAM	ASCERTAINMENT	BIRTHS	CASES	PREVALENCE	95% CI	PREVALENCE CHART
LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN							
Mexico	Mexico RYVEMCE	Hosp, T-not	26,648	55	20.6	15.5 - 26.9	
South America	South America ECLAMC	Hosp, T-not	330,135	603	18.3	16.8 - 19.8	
Argentina	Argentina RENAC	Hosp, T-not	1,689,069	1,532	9.1	8.6 - 9.5	
Chile	Chile RENACH	Hosp, T-incl	137,324	117	8.5	7 - 10.2	
Costa Rica	Costa Rica CREC	Pop, T-not	403,647	220	5.5	4.8 - 6.2	
Colombia	Colombia Call	Pop, T-incl	55,537	20	3.6	2.2 - 5.6	
Colombia	Colombia Bogotá	Pop, T-incl	233,100	31	1.3	0.9 - 1.9	
EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA							
Ukraine	Ukraine OMNI Net	Hosp, T-incl	130,244	239	18.4	16.1 - 20.8	
France	France Brittany	Pop, T-incl	194,447	310	15.9	14.2 - 17.8	

We at ICBD have been busy in revising the draft Birth Defect Report that we issued in early September. We thank everyone for checking their data and providing feedback.

As this report is a major overhaul (in concept and development) from prior reports, your feedback is particularly helpful and appreciated.

We received some additional data from some of you and we will integrate those data as we complete the revision.

We are particularly grateful to all of you who provided commentary to help readers appropriately interpret the findings from your program – you know your program and your data the best, and readers will appreciate your guidance. We look forward to completing the revision in the next several weeks and reaching the end (for now) of this long but fruitful gestation.

Top 10 Conditions by Frequency

among specific diagnoses with major health impact, England NCARDRS, 2015-2019

shown are total cases for the reporting period, yearly average cases, and prevalence per 10,000

CONDITION	CASES	YEARLY AVG	PREVALENCE
Down syndrome	5263	1053	25.8
Neural tube defects, total	2593	519	12.7
Cleft lip with or without cleft palate	1942	388	9.5
Trisomy 18	1485	297	7.3
Cystic kidney	1402	280	6.9
Hypospadias	1274	255	6.3
Cleft palate without cleft lip	1261	252	6.2
Spina bifida	1205	241	5.9
Omphalocele	1126	225	5.5
Anencephaly	1090	218	5.4

Not included: microcephaly, undescended testis, and unspecified conditions. Microcephaly is included in the condition-specific tables.

ICBDSR 2025 Annual Meeting – Save the Date!



We are pleased to announce that the ICBDSR 2025 Annual Meeting will be held at the **Mount Grace Resort in South Africa from November 2-5, 2025.**

Please visit the [Mount Grace Resort website](#) for details on the beautiful destination.

More details on the program, registration and abstract submissions will come in early 2025.

Recently published: a short list of recent papers selected by ICBDSR

To find the paper online, use the DOI for a browser search. If interested but unable to get the full text of the papers, please email us and we will see what we can do to help.

[Association Between Self-Reported Infections and Seropositivity Among Pregnant Women With Gastroschisis: A Case Control Study, With Emphasis on Chlamydia trachomatis.](#)

Feldkamp ML, Baum-Jones E, Enioutina EY, Krikov S, Kamath K. Birth Defects Res. 2024 Sep;116(9):e2400. doi: 10.1002/bdr2.2400.PMID: 39285796

[A global update on the status of prevention of folic acid-preventable spina bifida and anencephaly in year 2022.](#)

Wagh K, Kancharla V, Dorsey A, Pachón H, Oakley GP Jr. Birth Defects Res. 2024 May;116(5):e2343. doi: 10.1002/bdr2.2343.PMID: 38688860

[Assisted reproduction and congenital malformations: A systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

Veeramani M, Balachandren N, Hong YH, Lee J, Corno AF, Mavrelou D, Kastora SL. Congenit Anom (Kyoto). 2024 May;64(3):107-115. doi: 10.1111/cga.12561. Epub 2024 Apr 5. PMID: 38577728

[Congenital Anomalies in Multiple Pregnancy: A Literature Review.](#)

Shin JE, Ko HS, Bae JY, Seong WJ, Ahn TG, Han YJ, Cho GJ, Park IY. Obstet Gynecol Surv. 2024 Mar;79(3):167-175. doi: 10.1097/OGX.0000000000001251.PMID: 38482746

[Pregnancy outcomes and birth defects in offspring following Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs exposure during pregnancy: A systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

Chen X, Yang Y, Chen L, Wang K. Reprod Toxicol. 2024 Apr;125:108561. doi: 10.1016/j.reprotox.2024.108561. Epub 2024 Feb 27. PMID: 38423229

[Medication use during pregnancy and the risk of gastroschisis: a systematic review and meta-analysis of observational studies.](#)

Baldacci S, Santoro M, Mezzasalma L, Pierini A, Coi A. Orphanet J Rare Dis. 2024 Jan 30;19(1):31. doi: 10.1186/s13023-023-02992-z.PMID: 38287353

[Surveillance of multiple congenital anomalies; searching for new associations.](#)

Morris JK, Bergman JEH, Barisic I, Wellesley D, Tucker D, Limb E, Addor MC, Caverro-Carbonell C, Matias Dias C, Draper ES, Echevarría-González-de-Garibay LJ, Gatt M, Klungsoyr K, Lelong N, Luyt K, Materna-Kiryluk A, Nelen V, Neville A, Perthuis I, Pierini A, Randrianaivo-Ranjatoelina H, Rankin J, Rissmann A, Rouget F, Sayers G, Wertelecki W, Kinsner-Ovaskainen A, Garne E. Eur J Hum Genet. 2024 Apr;32(4):407-412. doi: 10.1038/s41431-023-01502-w. Epub 2023 Dec 5. PMID: 38052905

[Global air pollution exposure and congenital anomalies: an updated systematic review and meta-analysis of epidemiological studies.](#)

Feng Y, Liu X, Zhang X, Zhao X, Chang H, Ouyang F, Yu Z, Gao Z, Zhang H. *Int J Environ Health Res.* 2024 May;34(5):2333-2352. doi: 10.1080/09603123.2023.2246383. Epub 2023 Aug 23. PMID: 37610216

[Neural tube defects and epigenetics: role of histone post-translational histone modifications.](#)

V RP, Finnell RH, Ross ME, Alarcón P, Suazo J. *Epigenomics.* 2024 Mar;16(6):419-426. doi: 10.2217/epi-2023-0357. Epub 2024 Feb 27. PMID: 38410929

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

International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research (ICBDSR)

Website: www.icbdsr.org

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