



October 2019

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2019 Annual Report Preview

As part of the Annual Report, the Data Committee is finalizing the 2019 Data Brief titled **"Population-based birth defects data in the United States, 2012-2016: A focus on abdominal wall defects."** This assessment provides updated prevalence estimates for gastroschisis and omphalocele for the period 2012-2016 and describes the association of these defects with various characteristics.

Additionally, the manuscript developed with the Data Committee titled **"National population-based estimates for major birth defects, 2010-2014"** will be included in the *Birth Defects Research* Annual Report Special Issue. This manuscript provides updated prevalence estimates in addition to data for monitoring trends and understanding the impact of birth defects.

NBDPN Annual Meeting

The National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) will hold its 23rd Annual Meeting from March 9-11, 2020 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel in Arlington, VA.

Sunday, March 8, 2020 from 1:00-5:00PM ET: Training Workshop
Monday, March 9, 2020 at 8:00AM – Wednesday, March 11 at 12:00PM:
NBDPN Meeting

A variety of plenary and breakout sessions is scheduled, including:

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

The issues covered at this in-person meeting are vitally important to advance the work of birth defects surveillance. Additional events designed to encourage information sharing and networking, are the poster presentations, exhibits, and in person committee meetings.

Network Elections

VOTE by NOVEMBER 3, 2019

The NBDPN 2020 Elections Official Ballots have been emailed to all members. Every member has a **personalized link** found in the **NBDPN 2020 Elections** notification emailed to your account on record at www.nbdpn.org. Tips: login to update your contact information and check spam settings.

If you have not voted and cannot find your ballot in your inbox, please contact NBDPN at nbdpn@nbdpn.org.

Around the Network

API Selection

Getting ready for your next project or publication? Need a little help to stay up-to-date on birth defects research? The [Articles of Potential Interest](#) is a great place to get started. The API is a focused list of current publications from the peer-reviewed literature, updated quarterly. You can find the API and more [NBDPN resources](#) online.

Program Managers' Call

During the October Birth Defects Program Managers' call, we heard from Sam Viner-Brown (RI) on strategies to increase program visibility, networking, and leveraging partnerships and funding to strengthen birth defects program infrastructure. Sam discussed her program's work conducting service assessments to understand whether babies with birth defects are receiving needed services and whether those services are helpful. Read more in the [Rhode Island Birth Defects Data Booklet 2019](#).

Some suggestions that came out of discussion were to identify internal (e.g., Title V) and external partners (e.g., March of Dimes) that can use birth defects statistics, and offer the data they need to accomplish their goals, and that there are simple online tools like [Canva](#) to help birth defects programs message their information for partners.

More to Come

Join us in March at the 2020 NBDPN Annual Meeting and look for a save-the-date for the next call, coming soon after our in-person meeting!

Birth Defects Prevention Month 2020

Are you ready? Remember to use [#Best4YouBest4Baby](#) during **January 2020** to call attention to the many small steps that lead to better health for moms and babies!

Connections

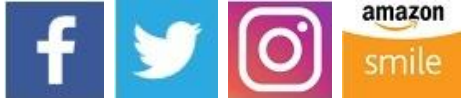
Now is a great time to check your contact information and committee interests and make any updates. Under "My Membership Information," click "Member Information" and then "Change Contact/Profile Info." Now update your profile.

If you need assistance, or want to unsubscribe to the NBDPN newsletter, email us at NBDPN@nbdpn.org.

Share Your Story and Give Feedback on NBDPN News

If you have any news to share, comments about the NBDPN News, or suggestions for future topic ideas, please e-mail News@nbdpn.org or nbdpn@nbdpn.org. Tell us how we're doing by taking this [brief survey](#).

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