

December 2013

NBDPN Officers

President: Leslie Beres, NJ
Immediate Past-President: David Law, TN
President-Elect: Paul Romitti, IA
Secretary-Treasurer: Deb Fox, NY
Member at Large: Amy Nance, UT

Recent Publications

Highlighting recent publications from the network and state programs.

NBDPN: [Key findings: gastroschisis rates increased from 1995 - 2005.](#)

NBDPN: [Selected birth defects data from population-based birth defects surveillance programs in the United States, 2006 to 2010:](#) Featuring trisomy conditions.

New Jersey: [Results from the New Jersey statewide critical congenital heart defects screening program.](#)

Texas: [Evaluating the effects of maternal exposure to benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylene on oral clefts among offspring in Texas: 1999-2008.](#)

Florida: [Factors associated with late detection of critical congenital heart disease in newborns.](#)

Florida: [Modeling travel impedance to medical care for children with birth defects using Geographic Information Systems.](#)

North Carolina: [Factors associated with distance and time traveled to cleft and craniofacial care.](#)

2013 Annual Report

The 2013 NBDPN Annual Report is now available at Birth Defects Research Part A. The [October issue](#)

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Virtual Annual Meeting Plans

2014 NBDPN Virtual Annual Meeting
http://www.nbdpn.org/2014_virtual_annual_meeting.php

The National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) will hold its 17th Annual Meeting using a virtual meeting format. The sessions will be similar to previous years and will cover current issues in birth defects surveillance, research, and prevention - but will be broken into multiple 3 hour sessions held from February through May. All sessions will start at 2PM Eastern Standard Time.

The first session is scheduled for February 26, 2014 from 2:00 - 5:00 PM, and will cover current research from the Centers for Birth Defects Research and Prevention (CBDRP); Standards for Birth Defects Surveillance: Implementation of Data Quality Assessment; Electronic Health Records; and Parents' Perspective.

If you have any questions, please contact Russel Kirby (rkirby@health.usf.edu), Ann Phelps (ann.phelps@dshs.state.tx.us), or Cara Mai (cmai@cdc.gov).

JRM call for Manuscripts

Themed Issue on Birth Defects Registry Methods Spring 2014, Journal of Registry Management
http://www.nbdpn.org/jrm_call_for_manuscripts.php

Due Date for Submission: Wednesday, January 15, 2014

The National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) is pleased to announce that we are continuing our arrangement with the *Journal of Registry Management* (JRM) to provide a themed issue on birth defects surveillance with papers focusing on birth defects program methods, approaches to assuring/evaluating data quality



contains the scientific articles and the [November issue](#) includes the NBDPN data brief on trisomies along with the state-specific data and directory

information.

All members will receive a hard copy, and additional copies can be obtained by e-mailing cmai@cdc.gov.

API Reminder

Articles of Potential Interest (API) are updated weekly on the NBDPN website. To view the recent publications related to birth defects, go to [NBDPN's resource tab](#).

ICD-10-CM Code Translation

The code translation from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM is now available [here](#). Please read the notes on the first tab of the Excel file ("read me") for information about the code translation. Similar tools for translating ICD-10-CM birth defect codes back to ICD-9-CM, and translation of CDC/BPA codes into a more detailed expansion of ICD-10-CM, will be available in the near future.

We thank Dr. Janet Cragan with CDC's Birth Defects Branch and the NBDPN Abstractors' Tool Workgroup for their work on developing translation tools and resources for birth defects surveillance.

Update on National Standards for Birth Defects Surveillance

In January 2014, the NBDPN Standards Workgroup will release the first Data Quality Assessment Tool, which outlines data quality performance standards for birth defects surveillance programs. Performance standards for completeness, timeliness and accuracy are intended to improve and standardize operations, outcomes and surveillance functions across state programs, thereby making data more consistent and useful for a variety of purposes.

State programs will be contacted in January to complete the assessment

and completeness, and innovative approaches to improving the science and practice of birth defects surveillance.

Potential contributors can contact Dr. Russell Kirby (813-396-2347, rkirby@health.usf.edu) or Dr. Wendy Nembhard (813-974-6861, wsembha@health.usf.edu) for more information or for a consultation on topics under consideration.

Call for Award Nominations

Have you heard of 'great happenings' around the Network through NBDPN committee work? Sometimes great accomplishments are born out of ordinary persistence. Sometimes an activity has a 'Wow!' impact.

From now until February 7, 2014 please consider nominating individuals or programs that are making a difference, including your own. The NBDPN Awards Group is soliciting nominations for the three awards:

1) The Godfrey P. Oakley, Jr. [Award](#)

This award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of birth defects.

2) State Service/State Leadership [Award](#)

This award honors an outstanding contribution (or leadership) by a state birth defects program.

3) Birth Defects Education & Prevention [Award](#)

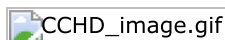
This award honors an agency's or birth defects program's efforts to raise public awareness of birth defects through innovative and collaborative projects.

For additional information, visit the [NBDPN Awards Page](#)

AMCHP Report on State Newborn Screening and Birth Defects Program Roles in CCHD Screening

The Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs (AMCHP) has developed a new Issue Brief entitled *State Newborn Screening and Birth Defects Program Roles in Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Defects (CCHD)*. This issue brief highlights effective practices and policies for states, specifically roles for state newborn screening and birth defects programs, to consider when designing and implementing comprehensive CCHD screening programs. Case studies from Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey and Utah are also highlighted. The issue brief builds off of recommendations from a February 2013 meeting, co-hosted by AMCHP and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that brought together state newborn screening and birth defects program representatives to dialogue about key components for successful collaboration in critical congenital heart disease screening and program implementation. To download the issue brief, [click here](#).

CDC's CCHD Working Group Award



The Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities CCHD

tool. Additional details will be sent directly to state programs. Questions can be directed to Marlene Anderka at Marlene.Anderka@state.ma.us.

Donations

NBDPN is a non-profit organization that can receive tax-deductible monetary donations. Please consider supporting NBDPN in this fashion. A simple mechanism is available to do so at the [NBDPN website](#).

Contact Us

For comments or suggestions, please email nbdpn@nbdpn.org or visit the NBDPN website at www.nbdpn.org.


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Working Group won the 2013 CDC Excellence in Surveillance and Health Monitoring Award for leading CDC activities on critical congenital heart defects (CCHD) and identifying how birth defect surveillance data can inform CCHD screening policy decisions. This group brings together experts in newborn screening, birth defects, health economics, epidemiology, medicine, and health services research from public health agencies and universities to use birth defects surveillance data for timely information on CCHD screening for the public, partners, and researchers. The group demonstrated public health impact by increasing knowledge and promoting and enhancing partnerships with hospitals and public health agencies.

Best Wishes

Congratulations to Phil Cross and Deb Musa-Cross on their retirement!

 PhilandDeb.gif

Phil Cross and Deborah Musa-Cross have been active members of the National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN) since its inception. Phil served on the Executive Committee for 6 years, as the Member-at-Large in 2003, and as NBDPN President in 2007. Deb has chaired the Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI) Committee for many years and will continue

to serve as its co-chair in 2014.