



NBDPN News

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Fall 2020

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Around the Network

- The Network ended its 2020-21 annual membership drive on August 31, 2020. We'd like to thank everyone for renewing his/her membership. For 2020-21, we currently have 200 members, which include 15 annual life-time members who have received the Godfrey P. Oakley awards. Network dues cover our annual operating costs, and these continue to increase annually. For individuals who made donations during the annual membership drive, you'll be receiving an acknowledgement from NBDPN within the next few weeks.
- Transitions
 - Two of our long-term members, Peter Langolis (TX) and Mary Knapp (NJ) retired this year. Peter served as President in 2017 and Mary was the chair of the Education and Outreach Committee. The Network wishes them both well!
 - Another long-term member, former officer and committee chair, Joan Ehrhardt taken a position with the Illinois Newborn Screening Program. The Network wishes her great success in her new job.
- Resource Update - ICD-10-CM and Birth Defects
 - Updated "Timeline of ICD-10-CM Changes", click [here](#) for the Excel file.
- **Coming Soon.....**
 - 2021 NBDPN Webinar Series
 - 2021 Mentoring Webinars
 - **Save the Date:**
 - Thursday, January 7, 2021 - Sharing the Message - 2021 Birth Defects Prevention Month Packet

NBDPN Resources

2021 Birth Defects Prevention Month

The NBDPN Communication and Health Promotion Committee is excited to present the **National Birth Defects Prevention Month 2021 Digital Toolkit**. The NBDPN works with multiple partners to develop this toolkit, focusing on the theme "Best for You. Best for Baby". We invite you to use the toolkit and share it with your partners

in order to design promotions, pick and choose relevant content, and copy or adapt the contents to take advantage of particular news or issues in local communities!

Connect With Us



Fall 2020 Mentoring Series!

Monday, November 9, 2020 1:00-2:30 PM ET

The Genetic Causes of Birth Defects: What We Know and What We Don't Know
Speaker: Dr. Sonja Rasmussen

Despite advances in the field of genomics, much remains unknown about what causes birth defects. Geneticist Dr. Sonja Rasmussen will share some of the major findings on this topic and will provide tips on conducting surveillance of conditions with genetic origins.

Register in advance for "The Genetic Causes of Birth Defects"

<https://marchofdimes.zoom.us/j/92433396269> **Updated Link**

Passcode: 166653

Now Available For Viewing -

[Title V and Birth Defects Programs: A Partnership to Help Mothers and Babies Webinar](#)

Committee/Workgroup News

Membership & Elections

- **Elections** - NBDPN Board of Directors elections will be held in November.
- **Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup** - In early December, the Diversity and Inclusion Workgroup will survey NBDPN membership on members' experiences, feelings, and ideas on diversity and inclusion as they relate to our network. Please keep an eye out for the survey e-mail and share your thoughts!

From the AAP

The Importance of Testing for Fragile X Syndrome

Leah W. Burke, MD, FACMG, FAAP, writes about the benefits of early genetic testing for any child who has unexplained global developmental delay, intellectual disability, or autism spectrum disorder. Read Brian's story and the value of genetic testing for Fragile X syndrome in the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) [Voices Blog post](#).

Talk with all women about opioid and other substance use during pregnancy

The year after delivery is a vulnerable period for moms with opioid use disorder (OUD). Visit AAP.org/NOWS to access resources, clinical guidance and models of care that support recovery-friendly environments for moms with OUD and their babies.

SBDPRP Virtual Scientific Sessions and CME Modules Available On Demand

The Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention (BDRP) Virtual 60th Annual Meeting took place live in June and July 2020. All scientific sessions at the annual meeting were recorded and are available on demand to registrants on the [meeting site](#) through early June 2021.

Members and non-members alike who did not attend the virtual meeting may still register to access the scientific sessions and/or courses on demand. You may register for the full meeting, for just for one-day of the meeting, and/or for one or more courses. View the full agenda [here](#) and register [here](#).

Discounts are available for BDRP members (30% off) and students and postdoctoral fellows (75% off). Please email [BDRP Headquarters](#) to request your discount code. Current members of our three sister societies (DNST, ETS and OTIS) are eligible for a 25% discount on registration and should contact those organization's headquarters to request a code.

Physicians, Physician Assistants, and Nurse Practitioners who wish to view sessions, including [On Demand CME Modules](#), may register for the Full Virtual Annual Meeting OR the One-Day for the module(s) in which they are interested. The On Demand CME Module agenda is available here.

MMWR - Articles of Interest

First is a report on fetal deaths, using data from the National Vital Statistics System.

- **Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Fetal Deaths** – United States, 2015-2017 (DBDID authors)

This report found that Black mothers were more than twice as likely to experience stillbirth compared to Hispanic and white mothers. Health problems that occur during pregnancy or underlying health conditions may be linked to these differences among women. Improvements in women's health, with regular access to quality prenatal care, can potentially reduce the risk of stillbirth for women and families of all races and ethnicities.

Read the [full scientific article](#).

Secondly, two reports came out this week with data on pregnant women and COVID-19 infections.

- **SARS-CoV-2 infection among hospitalized pregnant women: reasons for admission and pregnancy characteristics** — Eight U.S. Health Care Centers, March 1–May 30, 2020

During March 1–May 30, 2020, as part of Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD) surveillance of COVID-19 hospitalizations, 105 hospitalized pregnant women with COVID-19 were identified. Of these, 41% were hospitalized for treatment of their COVID-19 illness and 59% were hospitalized for pregnancy-related treatments or procedures (e.g. delivery) and found to have COVID-19 on testing. The number of women that were obese before getting pregnant or had gestational diabetes was higher among pregnant women hospitalized with COVID-19 than among pregnant women admitted for pregnancy-related treatment or procedures. Three out of 10 pregnant women admitted for COVID-19 required intensive care, and one pregnant woman died from COVID-19.

Read the [full scientific article](#).

- **Characteristics and Maternal and Birth Outcomes of Hospitalized Pregnant Women Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 — COVID-NET, 13 States**, March 1–August 22, 2020 (DBDID authors)

This report found that hospitalized pregnant women with COVID-19 can have serious outcomes, such as being admitted to intensive care, pregnancy loss, and the baby being born prematurely. About one in four hospitalized women aged 15–49 years with COVID-19 was pregnant. Among the nearly 600 hospitalized pregnant women with confirmed COVID-19, more than half didn't have any symptoms. Some pregnant women hospitalized with COVID-19 who had symptoms experienced severe outcomes: 16% were admitted to an intensive care unit, 8% required mechanical ventilation, and 1% died.

Read the [full scientific article](#).

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