



March 2016

Zika update - Network response and other resources

In January 2016, the NBDPN Executive Committee formed a Zika Response Group to identify strategic activities to address the current Zika virus outbreak, particularly the concern regarding [the association between prenatal Zika infection and the occurrence of microcephaly](#). Several activities currently in development include the rapid surveillance of microcephaly, 2016 NBDPN Annual Report Data Brief on microcephaly, and NBDPN guidance for state birth defects programs. Please visit some of our other resources: the surveillance of microcephaly [webinar slides](#), and the [case definition and surveillance notes for microcephaly](#).

We will continue to update the NBDPN Zika and birth defects resources [here](#). We also want to highlight several organizations and their work in this area.

CDC activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in January to respond to outbreaks of Zika occurring in the Americas with increased reports of birth defects (e.g., microcephaly). Find information, recommendations, and resources at <http://www.cdc.gov/Zika/>.

WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). View the WHO Zika Strategic Response Framework at www.who.int.

ICBDSR is working to identify, collect, and share official policy from nations, states, territories, and organizations, regarding the infection and the potential link to microcephaly in particular. www.icbdsr.org.

OTIS provides information to health professionals, expectant mothers, and others on exposures during pregnancy, including Zika infection, through their toll-free phone line, text message, and digitally by email and live chat on their website at www.MotherToBaby.org.

More information can be found at the [March of Dimes](#) and the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#). Both organizations provide information to prospective parents regarding many health concerns affecting fetal and child development, including Zika virus.

Announcements and Updates

Call for Manuscripts

The NBDPN has issued a call for manuscripts for its 18th national birth defects report, to be published in Birth Defects Research Part A (BDRA), November 2016. Manuscripts are peer-reviewed and approved under BDRA guidelines. The due date for manuscripts is **April 29, 2016**. For more information, visit our call for manuscripts page [here](#).

World Birth Defects Day

March 3rd was World Birth Defects Day! NBDPN and other organizations around the globe helped to raise awareness about birth defects. A very successful Thunderclap social media campaign reached almost 5,000,000 people. Additional information is available on the International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Research and Prevention website [here](#).

2016 NBDPN Virtual Annual Meeting - Save the Date

The 2016 virtual meeting is scheduled for June 7-8, 2016. More information will be available soon on the NBDPN website.

2015 Annual Report

Hard copies of the 2015 NBDPN Annual Report are still available. Contact nbdpn@nbdpn.org

Facebook and Feedback

NBDPN Facebook Site

The NBDPN Facebook site is <https://www.facebook.com/nbdpn>. Be sure to "like" us on Facebook to get the latest NBDPN updates.



Twitter

Follow us on Twitter ([@NBDPN](#)). Spread the word with #1in33 and #LivingmyPACT.

Feedback on NBDPN News

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

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