



# NBDPN News

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## Announcements and Updates

### National Folic Acid Awareness Week

Folic Acid Awareness Week (FAAW) is observed each year during January. In 2017, FAAW runs January 8th - 14th. If you would like to connect with colleagues who are developing FAAW materials, please contact [Barbara Frohnert](#)

### National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month

September is National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month, building upon September 9th as National FASD Awareness Day. The National Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (N.O.F.A.S.) and others say "Play it Smart. Alcohol and Pregnancy Don't Mix!". Go to [www.nofas.org](http://www.nofas.org) to find awareness materials and more.

### National Spina Bifida Awareness Month

Join the [Spina Bifida Association](#) and others going [#BeyondAllLimits](#) in their efforts to raise awareness about spina bifida during October and throughout 2016.

**Prevent to Protect:** Raise awareness about the risk of birth defects due to infectious diseases. Share the 2017 Birth Defects Prevention Month badge and use [#Prevent2Protect](#).



### Network Elections

Election time is coming and we need you! Nominate a colleague. Consider accepting a nomination to Network office. The volunteers who fill Network elected positions are friendly and supportive. Learn more about the Network elected positions: click the link below, go to the Members Only section of [www.nbdpn.org](http://www.nbdpn.org), and/or send a note to [NBDPN@nbdpn.org](mailto:NBDPN@nbdpn.org).

[NBDPN Elected Positions](#)

## Around the Network

### Joining a Committee

Think you might be interested in joining a committee? The NBDPN has multiple committees working on many topics. Read about a few of our committees' and workgroups' activities below. To find out more, visit our [Committees page](#) or email [nbdpn@nbdpn.org](mailto:nbdpn@nbdpn.org).

### Abstractor/Technical Tools Workgroup

Updates were made to the ICD code crosswalks. These revisions incorporate changes made to Chapter 17 of the ICD-10-CM code implemented October 1, 2016. To access the crosswalks please [click here](#).

### Data Committee

Look for the Network's Annual Report, to be published in the November issue of Birth Defects Research Part A. This issue will feature a special data report on national congenital microcephaly surveillance 2009-2013. Thanks to the committee and all the contributing birth defects monitoring systems for their hard work to provide high-quality and timely surveillance data!

### Surveillance Guidelines and Standards Committee (SGSC)

The committee is currently focused on developing the inclusion criteria, case definitions, and technical tools for the birth defects reported and monitored by both the Zika Pregnancy Registry and Birth Defects Surveillance Systems. The SGSC also continues its work on the development, implementation, and evaluation of data quality and data utilization standards for population-based birth defects surveillance.

## Partners' Corner

### Featured Resource

This month's featured resource: Teratology Society's *Teratology Primer*. The second edition of the [Teratology Primer](#) is available on-line, free of charge. This excellent resource provides an overview of the field, written by experts in their areas of specialty.

### Parent tool wins award

The Center for Plain Language has named the American Academy of Pediatrics' web-based parenting tool to assess physical developmental delay concerns in children under the age of 6 the winner of the Clear Mark Award in the long multimedia category. The Academy's interactive tool, [Physical Developmental Delays: What to Look For](#), was recognized for giving clarity to parents about physical developmental delays and helping parents start a conversation with their child's pediatrician.

### New resources highlight fragile X syndrome facts

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have joined forces to debunk common myths about fragile X syndrome (FXS). One myth is that girls cannot have FXS. In fact, both girls and boys can have FXS and exhibit symptoms that range from mild to severe. Myth busters handouts for pediatric clinicians and parents are available on the [AAP.org website](#). Additional information about this AAP - CDC partnership is available [online](#). Test your knowledge with CDC's interactive [myth busters quiz](#).

## 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, #LivingmyPACT, and #Pevent2Protect.

### Feedback on NBDPN News

Tell us how we're doing by taking this [brief survey!](#)

**Have News? Ideas or questions about items shared here? Let us know! Contact us at [News@NBDPN.org](mailto:News@NBDPN.org).**

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