

# NBDPN NEWSLETTER



## DON'T 'LEAF' NBDPN BEHIND

As we close out another successful year, we are proud to reflect on the progress NBDPN has made and look ahead to the exciting opportunities before us. September marked the beginning of a new period in our cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), providing a meaningful opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the past grant year while preparing for what comes next.

### *During Year 3, NBDPN:*

- Published Chapters 1–5 and related appendices of the updated Guidelines for Conducting Birth Defects Surveillance.
- Hosted our first-ever webinar series, featuring two CDC presentations on surveillance data and three webinars highlighting the updated Guidelines.
- Supported important public health observances, including the first CMV Awareness Month in June, Folic Acid Awareness Week in September, and National Birth Defects Awareness Month in January.
- Expanded the Network's communications through a stronger social media presence and enhanced website graphics and content.

Year 4 promises to be equally exciting and rewarding. With new leadership and preparations underway for our in-person 2027 conference, there is much to anticipate. We are grateful for the dedication and contributions of our members and partners, whose work continues to strengthen the Network and advance birth defects surveillance, research, and prevention.

Thank you for helping make this year such a success. We look forward to sharing additional updates and continuing this important work together in the year ahead!

## THIS ISSUE

Welcome!

Announcements &  
Updates

2026 Membership  
Meeting

2027 Board of  
Directors Elections

Stay in the Know

*- Sam Viner-Brown*

# Announcements & Updates

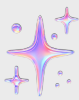
## membership!



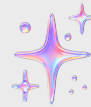
Membership renewals are set for mid October/early November so be on the lookout for those membership invoices.

**State pays for your membership?**

No problem! Email us with the list of members that your state pays memberships for and we will get your personalized invoice sent over!



Know someone who wants to be an NBDPN member? Have them fill out our [join form on our website here.](#)



## Membership MEETING

Our annual membership meeting is set for October 21<sup>st</sup> 2026 at 12pm ET!

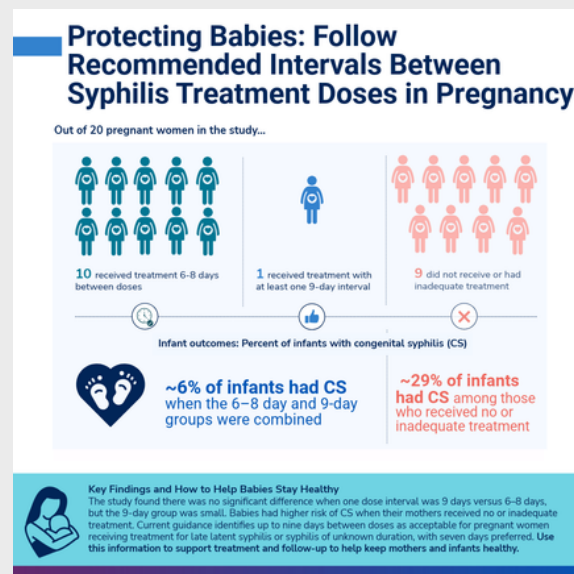
This meeting is for members only so please don't forget to register.



**register here today!**

# Announcements & Updates

## New CDC Study Examines Intervals between Doses of Syphilis Treatment During Pregnancy and Congenital Syphilis Risk



Congenital syphilis (CS) can occur when syphilis is passed to a baby during pregnancy. Timely and adequate treatment during pregnancy can help prevent CS and support the health of women and babies. A new [CDC study](#) using multi-state SET-NET data examined whether the intervals between doses of benzathine penicillin G for treatment of late syphilis during pregnancy was associated with CS risk.

What the study found: Among pregnant women with late syphilis of unknown duration, there was no statistically significant difference in the risk of CS when treatment doses were given nine days apart compared with six to eight days apart. However, the small number of women in the nine-day group limits interpretation. Infants born to women who received no, or inadequate treatment had significantly higher CS risk than infants born to women who received adequate treatment at six-to-eight-day intervals. Why this matters for maternal and infant health:

The findings support existing STI Treatment Guidelines and give healthcare professionals evidence to use when discussing and implementing timely treatment with pregnant women. Clear conversations about treatment can support informed decision-making, timely care, and healthier outcomes for women and babies, and can contribute to broader public health efforts to prevent congenital syphilis.

How you can help:

Please share these findings with healthcare professionals, public health professionals, and others working to prevent CS and improve maternal and infant health.

Read the [study here](#).  
[STI Treatment Guidelines](#)

# Action Items

## ELECTION TIME!

The 2027 Board of Directors Nominations are in!

**Cast your vote by Friday 10/09/2026!**

An email from ElectionBuddy with details on voting/how to vote has gone out! This is your opportunity to recognize outstanding leaders and help guide the future of NBDPN.

*\*voting is for members only*



---

## Publications Webpage Updates

We have updated our publications page! New additions include the 2025 Surveillance Methods Landscape and the Birth Defects Surveillance Literature Review!

[Check out those and more here!](#)



# Stay in the Know...

## MONTHLY RECOGNITIONS

### August

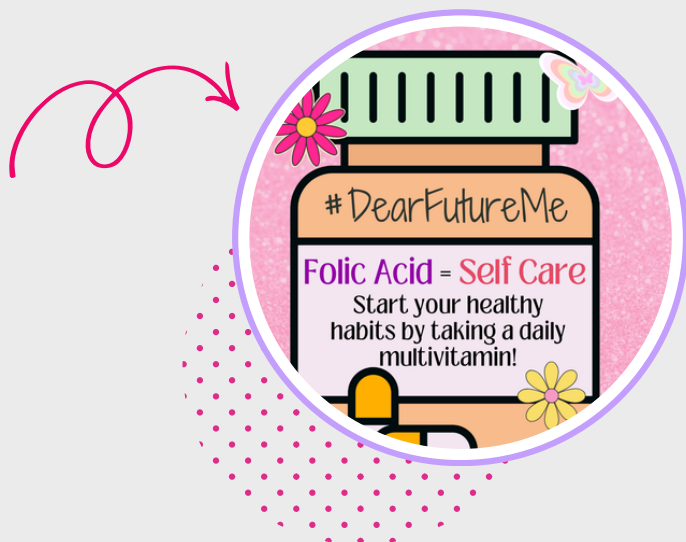
- National Breastfeeding Month
- National Immunization Awareness Month
- Children's Eye and Health Safety Month

### September

- National Sickle Cell Awareness Month
- Hydrocephalus Awareness Month
- [Folic Acid Awareness Week \(2nd week\)](#)
- Newborn Screening Awareness Month
- FASD Awareness Month
- FASD Awareness Day (Sept. 9th)
- Infant Mortality Awareness (2nd week)

### October

- Spina Bifida Awareness Month
- Down Syndrome Awareness Month
- Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month
- RSV Awareness Month
- Disability Employment Awareness Month
- Healthcare Quality Week
- Medical Ultrasound
- Health Literacy
- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month
- ADHD Awareness Month



**Please submit any member-related communications or other Network updates such as workgroups accomplishments, announcements, upcoming events, etc. to [nbdpninc@nbdpn.org](mailto:nbdpninc@nbdpn.org).**

**Connect with us today!**

