



International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research Monthly Newsletter

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March 3, World Birth Defects Day – 2017 Edition: Please disseminate the application form to become a “Participating Organization” of the 2017 WBDD. The application form and other information are available at www.icbdsr.org (provisional page – site under construction – see below). Please, contact centre@icbdsr.org for further information.

Everyone can join the initiative supporting the WBDD on Thunderclap at <http://po.st/WBDD17>. Your contribution to this global initiative is unique and extremely valuable.

WHO Calls Off Global Zika Emergency

Recently published in The JAMA Network: The Zika virus no longer represents a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), according to a World Health Organization [declaration](#) made after a November meeting of its Emergency Committee on Zika. The announcement doesn't refute the fact that Zika virus is a serious ongoing public health challenge because many aspects of the disease and its consequences remain unknown. But the committee determined that these questions would be better addressed through a “robust, longer-term technical mechanism” other than PHEIC designation, namely a “sustained programme of work with dedicated resources to address the long-term nature of the disease and its associated consequences.” Abstract available at <http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2598279>

CDC'S Zika Response: the Centers for Disease Control summarized the 10 main achievements on Zika in 2016, in just one document. Here the direct link to the pdf:

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/pdfs/mm6552e1.pdf>

January is National Birth Defects Prevention Month in the US. This is a nationwide effort to raise awareness of birth defects, their causes, and their impact. Each January the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and many relevant organizations in the field raise awareness among women and families on actions they can take to help have a healthy baby. January is also a time to recognize people living with birth defects. These children and their families still need help. They often need specialized treatment, continued care, and strong social support to improve their overall quality of life. <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/birthdefects/prevention-month.html>

Meetings and Conferences



1st World Congress on Maternal Fetal and Neonatal Medicine – From periconception to early infancy.

London, 24th-26th April 2017. Scientific Program and Abstract submission at

<http://www.mcascientificevents.eu/worldmfnm2017/>



8th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the Developing World (ICBD), Colombia, 8th -11th November 2017. For general information about the conference, please contact icbd2017@javeriana.edu. Check www.icbd.marchofdimes in February 2017 for information on sponsorship, program, abstract submission and registration



44th Annual Meeting of the International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research, Austin, Texas, November 13th to 15th, 2017 – Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol. Please, [SAVE THE DATE](#). Information on program, abstract submission, registration, and other practical arrangements will be disseminated at a later time at www.icbdsr.org.

News from the ICBDSR Centre and Executive Committee



The new ICBDSR's website is under construction, after moving to a new provider. Only a limited amount of information is actually available at www.icbdsr.org.

Please, send your contribution to the next Newsletters at centre@icbdsr.org