



Monthly Newsletter

December 2024

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ICBDSR 2025 Annual Meeting



The 51st Annual Meeting of the ICBDSR will be held at the **Mount Grace Resort in South Africa from November 2-5, 2025.**

Please visit the [Mount Grace Resort website](#) for details on the beautiful destination.

More details on the program, registration and abstract submissions will come in early 2025.

Please note, the International Society for Prenatal Diagnosis (ISPD) Conference <https://www.ispdhome.org/> will be in South Africa from October 30- Nov 2, 2025.

ICBD corner.

- First off, *please hold off submitting annual data*. As noted previously, we are revising (with the help of some of you) the list and definitions of the set of congenital anomalies, based on the feedback from the latest submission and report. We anticipate a submission date in **March 2024**. Stay tuned.
- We are working on a review on epidemiology and prevention of congenital heart disease. In this issue of the newsletter, we list a few review papers on the burden of disease and frequency (prevalence/incidence) worldwide. Notably, there aren't all that many that made the cut, and some are meta-analysis of variable value. What are your recommendations for the top five sources and papers on this topic? Please share and we will add to the list in the next newsletter.

Literature corner: this month's selection from the ICBD

To find the paper online, use the DOI for a browser search. If interested but unable to get the full text of the papers, please email us and we will see what we can do to help.

This month we did things a little differently. Rather than papers published in recent months, we selected a few (still fairly recent) review papers addressing the global burden of, and risk factors for, congenital heart disease. We did not find many, and some were meta-analysis of variable value.

Do you agree with this short list? What key papers have we missed? What recommendations do you have for us and the readers of this newsletter? Please share and we will add them to the next issue.

[Global, regional, and national burden of congenital heart disease, 1990-2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017.](#) GBD 2017 Congenital Heart Disease Collaborators. Lancet Child Adolesc Health. 2020 Mar;4(3):185-200. doi: 10.1016/S2352-4642(19)30402-X. Epub 2020 Jan 21. PMID: 31978374

[Congenital heart disease: a global public health concern.](#) Joseph W Rossano
Lancet Child Adolesc Health. 2020 Mar;4(3):168-169. doi: 10.1016/S2352-4642(19)30429-8. Epub 2020 Jan 21. (a commentary on the previous paper, highlighting how primary data are still unavailable for large swaths of the world)

[Global, regional, and national time trends in mortality for congenital heart disease, 1990-2019: An age-period-cohort analysis for the Global Burden of Disease 2019 study.](#)
Su Z, Zou Z, Hay SI, Liu Y, Li S, Chen H, Naghavi M, Zimmerman MS, Martin GR, Wilner LB, Sable CA, Murray CJL, Kassebaum NJ, Patton GC, Zhang H. *EclinicalMedicine*. 2022 Jan 11;43:101249. doi: 10.1016/j.eclinm.2021.101249. eCollection 2022 Jan. PMID: 35059612

[Birth prevalence of congenital heart disease worldwide: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#)
[Denise van der Linde¹, Elisabeth E M Konings, Maarten A Slager, Maarten Witsenburg, Willem A Helbing, Johanna J M Takkenberg, Jolien W Roos-Hesselink](#)
J Am Coll Cardiol. 2011 Nov 15;58(21):2241-7. doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2011.08.025. PMID: 22078432.
DOI: [10.1016/j.jacc.2011.08.025](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2011.08.025)

[Maternal modifiable factors and risk of congenital heart defects: systematic review and causality assessment.](#)
Gomersall JC, Moore VM, Fernandez RC, Giles LC, Grzeskowiak LE, Davies MJ, Rumbold AR. *BMJ Open*. 2024 Aug 24;14(8):e082961. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2023-082961. PMID: 39181550

[Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Prenatal Risk Factors for Congenital Heart Disease: Maternal Chronic Diseases and Parental Exposures.](#)
Khalilipalandi S, Lemieux A, Lauzon-Schnittka J, Perreault L, Dubois M, Tousignant A, Watelle L, Pratte G, Dallaire F. *Can J Cardiol*. 2024 Jul 10:S0828-282X(24)00524-5. doi: 10.1016/j.cjca.2024.07.004. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38996968

[Meta-Analysis of Risk Factors for Congenital Heart Disease: Part 2, Maternal Medication, Reproductive Technologies, and Familial and Fetal Factors.](#)
Lemieux A, Khalilipalandi S, Lauzon-Schnittka J, Taillefer V, Tousignant A, Perreault L, Rego K, Dubois M, Watelle L, Roy LO, Dallaire F. *Can J Cardiol*. 2024 Sep 15:S0828-282X(24)00949-8. doi: 10.1016/j.cjca.2024.09.011. Online ahead of print. PMID: 39288833

Meetings and Events: A list of future Meetings & Events is available at <http://www.icbdsr.org/meetings/>.

Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) Awareness Week – February 7-14, 2025

February 7-14 is Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) Awareness Week. A congenital heart defect is a structural problem with the heart that is present at birth whether caused by genetic or environmental causes. They can affect the walls of the heart, the valves, or the blood vessels adjacent to the heart, and are the most common type of birth defect affecting about 1% of infants. These defects can range from mild, a small hole in the heart wall that closes on its own, to severe malformations that can be life-threatening. About 25% of infants born with CHD will have critical CHD which will require procedures or surgery in the first year of life.

BDRP Annual Meeting – Call for abstracts due February 15, 2025

The Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention's 65th Annual Meeting will be in Denver, Colorado, on June 28-July 2, 2025. This year's meeting theme is "Reaching New Heights in Birth Defects Research: Fundamentals to Cutting-Edge Research." The Program Committee, chaired by Prägati Coder, has organized an outstanding program around this theme, and our Education Committee has developed three top-notch continuing education courses, under the leadership of chair Ronee Baracani. Scientific session and course topics. Visit the [BDRP 65th Annual Meeting](#) website for full details.

Rare Disease Day – February 28, 2025

Rare Disease Day is the globally-coordinated movement on rare diseases, working towards equity in social opportunity, healthcare, and access to diagnosis and therapies for people living with a rare disease. <https://www.rarediseaseday.org/>

International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Surveillance and Research (ICBDSR)

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