

2023 National Birth Defects Prevention Network Conference

Theme: The theme of the 2023 NBDPN National Conference is “*Connect. Share. Collaborate.*” The theme represents the national conference as a platform for the NBDPN community to leverage each other’s expertise and partner for better birth defects surveillance, research, prevention, and health promotion. As the only national conference for population-based birth defects surveillance programs, this theme underscores the opportunity to experience community and inspiration, and to gain knowledge, tools, and skills.

The tracks for the 2023 NBDPN National Meeting are:

- 1. Surveillance Operations:** Case ascertainment; continuous quality improvement (CQI); data linkages; data modernization/data systems/interoperability; program management
- 2. Partnerships and Family Engagement:** Collaborations with other public health programs; leadership engagement; program visibility
- 3. Epidemiology/Data:** Birth defect rates, trends, risk factors; Birth Defects Study To Evaluate Pregnancy exposures (BD-STEPS); statistical methods/analyses
- 4. Prevention, Intervention, and Public Policy:** Birth Defects Awareness Month (BDAM) activities; lifespan surveillance; Neural Tube Defects (NTD) prevention/folic acid promotion activities; referrals
- 5. Emerging, Evolving, and Novel Topics:** Data systems; infectious disease; new birth defects testing; new disorders; newborn screening (NBS); prenatal diagnosis

Submission Category Descriptions*:

Category	Description
Breakout Session	60 minutes in length, these are informative sessions that often include a panel of presenters representing varying perspectives, include audience interaction and allot a minimum of 15 minutes for Q&A.
Poster	Graphic presentation of research or program results to be placed on a poster board; presenters are encouraged to provide handouts/flyers for those interested in learning more about the project described in the poster. At least one author must be available at the conference to set-up, answer questions during poster presentations, and dismantle.
Roundtable	60 minutes in length; this is an opportunity for attendees to share and connect on a current issue or topic of interest. Roundtable presenters will briefly share on a topic they would like to explore in greater depth with colleagues and tap into the expertise of peers and experts in birth defects surveillance, research, prevention, and health promotion.

*Organizers may reach out to submitters to format **proposals** to better align with the conference theme or to ask if there is willingness to combine proposals with common themes. Additional specifications on finalized format, poster dimensions, etc. will be communicated to proposals that are accepted.