

South-East Asian Regional Network on Strengthening Newborn health & Prevention of Birth Defects



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International Conferences

7th International Conference on Birth Defects and Disabilities in the developing World

Birth Defects in the Post-MDG Era: Joining Hands for Prevention and Care

For conference information, go to www.icbd2015.com

or

Contact: globalprograms@marchofdimes.com

September 21-24, 2015

Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

International Conference on Maternal and Child Nutrition, 2015



The South Asia Infant Feeding Research Network (SAIFRN) is pleased to invite you to the International Conference on Maternal and Child Nutrition on 23-24 November, 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. This conference presents a tremendous opportunity to improve our understanding of the current status of maternal and child nutrition; share advances in addressing the health burden associated with malnutrition and devising new solutions for effective delivery through evidence and innovations.

Themes covered in this even include child nutrition interventions: New approaches and new evidence , Micronutrients and fortification, etc.

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Publications

Every newborn action plan and postnatal care for mother and newborn



Member States have made significant progress towards reducing maternal and child mortality, but still a woman dies every seven minutes in pregnancy and child birth, every hour more than two hundred under-five children die in the Region including more than one hundred newborns. Slow neonatal mortality reduction has retarded progress to MDG4 in SEAR, and tackling the first few days' neonatal mortality is the real challenge.

Global Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP) was developed following a systematic review of the progress in addressing newborn survival and extensive expert consultations. ENAP was endorsed at the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly in May 2014. WHO has also released guidelines for postnatal care (PNC) for mothers and children to be addressed.

The regional meeting on ENAP and PNC was organized to review the national newborn action plans and share successful experiences for scaling up. WHO technical guidelines on PNC for mothers and newborns were shared for ensuring uniform and universal implementation of these in Member Countries of the Region. Country teams prepared plans for implementation of newborn action plans and post natal care to accelerate reduction in newborn mortality. The meeting report provides highlights of the proceedings from the regional meeting.

[Read full publication](#)

Regional Events

SEAR-NBBD: Expansion and Capacity Building



The integrated newborn health and birth defects database (SEAR-NBBD) is progressively expanding with new countries and more hospitals joining within the country networks for reporting data. SEAR-NBBD has expanded to six member countries in the South-East Asia Region. The latest additions are the hospitals from Myanmar. Bangladesh has taken initiatives to expand their national existing national network - now there are 15 hospitals who report their data to the SEAR-NBBD database. In India, there has been a rapid expansion of the national network under the national child screening programme (RBSK). With support of Ministry of Health more than 50 medical college hospitals with high load of child births have joined the SEAR-NBBD database. At present there are 89 hospitals from the countries in the Region that are participating in the SEAR-NBBD database.

WHO and CDC have recently supported a series of capacity building workshops for birth defects surveillance in India, Bangladesh and Myanmar to training and orient hospital staff in standard method of data collection, case definition, ICD-10 coding, uploading of standardised data and analysis. Special emphasis was placed on maintaining quality and completeness of the data. Trainers from WHO-SEAR office WHO-CC AIIMS, CDC and national trainers facilitated these training workshops and provide hands-on training in ICD coding and use of electronic data system of the SEAR-NBBD. WHO-SEARO has developed the training manual that will be useful for on-going training of new centers in the countries. A standard set of protocols for establishing birth defects surveillance in the hospitals has also been developed to provide guidance on standard procedures and quality maintenance.

Articles of Interest

- [Risk of congenital heart defects in the offspring of smoking mothers: a population-based study](#)
- [Preventing birth defects: The value of the NBDPS case-control approach](#)
- [Potential for a paradigm change in the detection of retinopathy of prematurity requiring treatment](#)
- [The Association Between Race/Ethnicity and Major Birth Defects in the United States, 1999–2007](#)
- [Choosing Wisely in Newborn Medicine: Five Opportunities to Increase Value](#)

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