Multi-program Research Collaborations
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This 90-minute session will provide a review and discussion of collaborative birth defects research projects in which information from more than one data source or surveillance system are combined at state, regional, national, or international levels. In the first presentation, Mark Canfield, PhD will describe collaborative projects of the National Birth Defects Prevention Network, including a brief review of Network publications and a report of current and new Network projects. Emerging data from one of the current studies will be shared. There will also be discussion of how states might participate in a multi-state Network project, and what benefits are derived from such efforts. A second presentation will highlight the collaborative nature of the National Birth Defects Prevention Study. Jennita Reefhuis, PhD will review the unique features of this important study and present a few of the more important findings. Marcia Feldkamp, PhD will then highlight the International Clearinghouse for Birth Defects Research and Prevention, including its goals and membership structure. Examples of previous collaborative projects will be provided, including the recently published series on eight very rare defects. Finally, Russ Kirby, PhD will lead a discussion of other collaboration opportunities and further examples of multi-program collaboration within and across states.