

*Monday, February 28, 3:30PM-5:00PM
Concurrent Breakout Session B*

Guidelines for Prenatal Surveillance

Moderator: Marcia Feldkamp, Utah Birth Defect Network, University of Utah Health Sciences Center, Salt Lake City, UT

Janet Cragan, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA

Marlene Anderka and Cathy Higgins, Massachusetts Birth Defects Monitoring Program, Boston, MA

Samara Viner-Brown, Rhode Island Birth Defects Program, Providence, RI

This breakout session will explore issues related to the inclusion of prenatal diagnoses into birth defects surveillance programs. The content of a new chapter for the *NBDPN Guidelines for Conducting Birth Defects Surveillance* that addresses issues and approaches to implementing birth defects surveillance with prenatal diagnoses will be discussed. Topics to be covered include data sources, information to be ascertained, which defects to include, and the need for clinical review.

Two state programs will then provide their perspectives and experiences. The Massachusetts experience will include a discussion of the promulgation of their state regulations based on an amended state statute allowing the MA Birth Defects Monitoring Program to begin collection of prenatal diagnoses into surveillance activities. They will focus on the process for establishing a system of prenatal reporting and will also present data from 3 pilot projects; specifically, they will examine the gain in cases, change in diagnoses to existing cases, and timeliness of case ascertainment. Finally, Rhode Island will serve as another perspective to prenatal ascertainment implementation, including a description of data sources, methods, challenges, and opportunities.