Friday, January 23, 11:00AM-12:00PM
2:15-3:30PM
Educational Workshop (Workshop repeats in the afternoon)

Congenital Heart Defect Computer-based Training Curriculum
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Congenital heart defects (CHD) are among the most difficult for birth defects surveillance personnel to learn and understand. The Texas Birth Defects Monitoring Division, with about 50 non-clinical field staff involved in medical records abstraction and coding, has sought to develop various methods to both introduce this information and to help staff to periodically refresh their knowledge of CHD.

Using an interactive, animated, computer-based software originally developed for pediatric nurses, we have developed a training module that encompasses the following: 1) Classroom training; 2) Individual, interactive training; 3) Computer- and paper-based activities; and 4) Pre-tests and post-tests to evaluate knowledge and progress.

In addition to the computer- and paper-based exercises, which focus on the structure and hemodynamics of the fetal and newborn hearts, the classroom portion also includes a component that addresses issues unique to birth defect surveillance and the use of BPA codes. The BPA code training follows the model set forth in the new BPA Code Training Manual compiled this past year for the TBDMD. Field staff in Texas have found the computer-based material helpful when abstracting and coding.

This session will follow a "train-the-trainer" format, in which participants will have the opportunity to learn both the content presented and the training methods employed. Copies of the interactive software and handouts will be provided.