




**COMMON CHALLENGES AMONG
BIRTH DEFECTS ABSTRACTORS**

Abstractor/Technical Tools Workgroup
Standards and Guidelines Committee
National Birth Defects Prevention Network



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Session Overview

- The methods and procedures used by birth defects surveillance staff to access medical records and the information available in the electronic medical record (EMR) systems varies according to hospital and surveillance program policies.
- This session will focus on how some surveillance programs have learned to “find the new normal”.

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List of Topics

- Access to health information: Keep up with changes
- Request health information: A few more moving parts today
- Electronic Medical Record: Many variations and degrees of quality
- Acknowledgements

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Access to health information: Keep up with changes

- Work environments
- Point(s) of contact
- Technology and cyber security
- Remote access
- Medical information formats

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Request health information: A few more moving parts today

- Templates and instructions
- Communication flow
- Role of IT
- Third parties AKA vendors

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Electronic Medical Record: Many variations and degrees of quality

- Access the EMR
- Navigating the EMR
- Nuances of the EMR
- Privacy and Security

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Thank you!

NBDPN Birth Defects Surveillance Survey Workgroup

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