Our Mission
To understand the cause and pathogenesis of disorders of developmental and reproductive origin to prevent their occurrence and improve outcomes through research, collaboration, communication, and education.

Annual Meeting
Our Annual Meeting advances our shared vision and scientific identity as researchers focused on the causes, manifestations, intervention, and prevention of birth defects, both structural and functional. It also expresses our diversity as a Society of clinicians, scientists, and science policy regulators from academic, industrial, and government sectors. Attendees network over the latest research and advocacy. The Annual Meeting is held in late June each year.

Excellence in Publishing
Birth Defects Research, the Society’s official journal, publishes original laboratory and clinical research and reviews in the etiology of adverse developmental and reproductive outcomes. Members publish seminal work on broad topics ranging from prenatal effects of recreational and therapeutic drugs such as alcohol, cannabis and antidepressants, to maternal conditions such as diabetes, obesity, infections, and microbiota. The journal is published in twenty issues per year. The Society also publishes a comprehensive Primer on the field of birth defects research written by experts and freely available on the Society’s website.

Cutting-Edge Science Making Headlines

“Is it Safe To Take That Medication While Breastfeeding?”
- NYTimes.com

“Marijuana in Pregnancy May Be Just as Damaging as Alcohol”
- DailyMail.co.uk

“Pregnant During the Pandemic: How Does COVID-19 Affect Expecting Women and Their Babies?”
- cdc.gov

“Bebies in the Womb Aren’t So Sterile After All”
- TMM.com

“List of Possible Zika Birth Defects Grows Longer”
- Scientific American

“Long Overlooked by Science, Pregnancy is Finally Getting Attention It Deserves”
- WashingtonPost.com


The opportunities for networking, learning and presenting your hard work are limitless! Trainees who join the Society enjoy career development workshops, travel awards, mentorship, and involvement opportunities that make a difference.

“Membership provides me with opportunities to meet fellow researchers from diverse fields as well as connect my science with stakeholders in my community and beyond.”
- Lauren Walker, PhD

For more information about the Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention, including how to join, visit

www.birthdefectsresearch.org