Society for Birth Defects Research & Prevention

From bench to bedside worldwide, our members conduct leading-edge research on birth defects and developmental disorders and promote effective education and prevention strategies.

Who We Are

The Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention *(BDRP)* was established as a multidisciplinary scientific society in 1960 as the Teratology Society. Today, BDRP is a multidisciplinary group of scientists from a variety of disciplines including researchers, clinicians, epidemiologists, and public health professionals from academia, government, and industry who study birth defects, reproduction, and disorders of developmental origin.

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.

"I look forward to collaborating with each and every one of you as we work together to prevent birth defects and disorders of developmental and reproductive origin. Make healthy pregnancies and healthy babies your goal too!"

~ Prägati S. Coder, PhD, DABT, President

Scan for more information about BDRP and how to join, or visit

www.birthdefectsresearch.org

Healthy Pregnancies. Healthy Babies. Better Lives.

Join Us at Our Annual Meeting

BDRP hosts an outstanding educational and scientific event that provides researchers who span the breadth of academia, industry, regulatory agencies, contract research organizations, consulting companies, and clinical specialties with a forum to exchange knowledge and ideas that promote and expand the value of birth defects research and prevention.

Scientific Program Highlights

This year's streamlined 3.5–day format offers outstanding science, networking, and professional growth around the theme, "Building a Better Tomorrow: Advances in the Fields of Pregnancy, Reproduction, and Development." The Program Committee, chaired by Wafa Harrouk, has organized an excellent program around this theme with scientific symposia on the following topics:

- Reevaluating Fluoride Exposure: Developmental Risks and Emerging Evidence
- What's Next in Birth Defects Research? The Future of Science and Innovation in Understanding Congenital Anomalies
- Including Pregnant and Lactating Women in Clinical Trials: From the Past to the Future
- Exposome Research: Longitudinal Cohorts as a Critical Piece of the Puzzle
- Connecting the Dots: Interpreting Teratogenic Risk Across Study Types and the Path to Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration
- The Next Generation of NAMs: Evaluating Toxicities in Reproductive Tissues

The program also features a continuing education course on Placental Pathology and Associated Toxicological Models, research needs and professional development workshops, special lectures honoring the founding fathers of our Society, platform and poster sessions, and a multitude of networking opportunities. In addition, the Developmental Neurotoxicology Society (DNTS) will meet alongside BDRP, with joint sessions and registration opportunities, and ample opportunities for networking between attendees.

Travel Awards, Career Development, & More!

"Becoming a member of BDRP has been one of the most impactful decisions throughout my PhD career! They have provided such a welcoming and inclusive environment that allowed me to develop my science, career, and personal connections. There are abundant opportunities for trainees to present their research, win awards, refine their leadership skills, and grow their network in ways that will truly benefit their long-term goals."

~ Mikayla A.L. Watt, Trainee Council Liaison

Be Part of Our Upcoming Course

This hybrid course, held annually, will provide attendees with a foundation of developmental and reproductive biology and its practical applications for safety assessment. The course includes a 3-day foundational component conducted in a virtual setting and a 2-day, in-person case study-based component. Attendees will gain a solid understanding of the principles and methodologies used in nonclinical safety assessments across a variety of industries *(i.e., pharmaceuticals, food additives, pesticides, and industrial chemicals)*.

The 2026 in-person module focuses on pharmaceutical drug development, covering study timing; species and route selection; development strategies for small molecules, biologics, and new modalities; pediatric development plans *(including weight-of-evidence approaches)*; the impact of DART data on clinical programs; contraception considerations; global labeling; and post-marketing surveillance. The module also addresses vaccine development, novel routes of administration, and TK, PK, ADME, and related approaches, reinforced through case studies and interactive breakout group exercises.

Reproductive and Developmental Toxicology

for Industrial and Regulatory Scientists

An Interactive Hybrid Course

Three Foundational Modules (Live-Virtual)
September 25, October 2, and October 9, 2026

Pharma-Focused Module(In-Person)
October 15–16, 2026 | Cambridge, MA

REGISTRATION OPEN
For more course information and registration, visit
www.birthdefectsresearch.org/rdt

Connect with us.