# **Congenital anomaly**



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## Congenital anomaly

### Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Glossary Item

**Synonymous names:** Birth defect; developmental anomaly; congenital malformation

METEOR identifier: 554801

Registration status: WA Health, Standard 04/03/2014

**Definition:** A congenital anomaly is one or more of a diverse group of structural or functional

disorders of prenatal origin which can be caused by single gene defects, chromosomal disorders, multifactorial inheritance, environmental teratogens and

chromosomal disorders, multifactorial inheritance, environmental teratogens and micronutrient deficiencies. An anomaly is a departure from normal development.

A congenital anomaly can be present at conception or occur before the end of pregnancy. They may be diagnosed during pregnancy, or after stillbirth or termination of pregnancy, or after live birth. The anomaly diagnosed in pregnancy

may be the reason for a termination of pregnancy.

### Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: WA Health

Origin: This glossary term is based on publications by the World Health Organisation and

the Western Australian Register of Developmental Anomalies.

Reference documents: The Western Australian Register of Development Anomalies provides more

information at

http://kemh.health.wa.gov.au/services/register\_developmental\_anomalies/index.htm

Further information from the World Health Organisation can be found at

http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs370/en/