2016 iCAN Research Summit Recap

The 2016 iCAN Research and Advocacy Summit was an engaging five-day conference held in Barcelona, Spain that brought together over 160 youth advisors, team leaders, parents and scientific partners representing 15 iCAN chapters from 6 countries on 2 continents. iCAN partnered with Sant Joan de Déu Hospital to host this event, which held a myriad of interactive sessions, workshops and expert panels. The objective of iCAN and the Summit is to educate and empower our youth to improve pediatric health, medicine, research and innovation by sharing children’s voices in an impactful way.

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Among those in attendance were speakers and representatives from leading organizations such as the US Food and Drug Administration, Health Canada, European Medicines Agency, Pfizer, Premier Research, European Organization for Rare Diseases, Dravet Syndrome Foundation, Pharmaceutical Product Development, Nuffield Council on Bioethics, European Patients’ Academy on Therapeutic Innovation, The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, and various Children’s Hospitals from around the world. Children and families had the opportunity to engage with world leaders in science, while learning about different innovative treatments, personal health, regulation, the clinical research design and process, and patient advocacy. A poster session gave children and young people the opportunity to present the many projects each team has worked on since iCAN’s launch. The Summit also included other educational and cultural activities such as tours of the Sagrada Familia de Gaudi, FC Barcelona’s Camp Nou, CosmoCaixa Museum of Science, and Fundació Alícia, a research center focused on healthy lifestyles.

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