

SHOWCASING GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN CHILDHOOD-ONSET DISABILITY RESEARCH



A MEANINGFUL YEAR FOR CANCHILD

The 2026 European Academy of Childhood-onset Disability (EACD) Congress in Galway, Ireland brought together over **1,000 attendees** with researchers, clinicians, families, and partners from around the world.



European Academy of
Childhood Disability

The EACD is a major international not-for-profit association for anyone with a clinical and/or scientific interest in childhood-onset disabilities in Europe and beyond

This year was especially meaningful as CanChild's **F-words for Child Development** served as the organizing framework for the Congress.



CANCHILD'S IMPACT AT EACD 2026



31

parallel
sessions

18

posters



53

presentations
across 4 days



30+

CanChild researchers,
trainees, staff, and family
partners involved

OPENING EACD 2026

The Congress opened with a Public Talk by **Dr. Peter Rosenbaum:**

"Childhood Disability in the 21st Century: Out of the Shadows with the World Health Organization and some F-Words!"

His presentation highlighted the evolution of childhood disability research and the global influence of strengths-based, family-centred approaches.



FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS & VOICES

CanChild researchers and family partners helped lead discussions on:



Co-design



Family engagement

Participation

Knowledge translation



Youth engagement



With the opening Keynote co-presented by **Rachel Teplicky** and **Danijela Grahovac**:

"Changing the Conversation on Childhood Disability: Family Voices and the Power of the F-Words"



BEYOND OUR OWN PRESENTATIONS

CanChild's influence extended throughout the Congress:

Mac Keith Press



13

abstracts in the EACD selected "best abstracts" supplement were authored by CanChild researchers

28

abstracts used or referenced CanChild-developed tools and frameworks

More than **80%** of those came from research groups outside CanChild



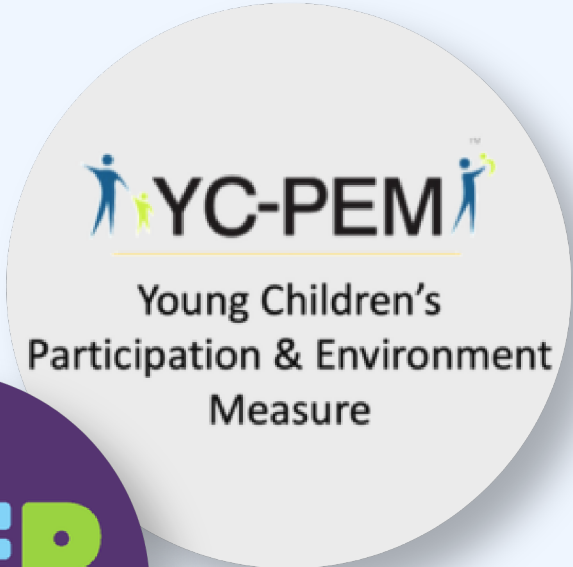
GMFM



f-words
for
Child Development



PREP
Pathways & Resources for
Engagement & Participation



YC-PEM
Young Children's
Participation & Environment
Measure



THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE CANCHILD TEAM!

Thank you to all researchers, trainees, staff, clinicians, family partners, and collaborators who represented CanChild at EACD 2026!

Together, we continue to advance participation, inclusion, and flourishing for children and youth with disabilities and their families!

