



Conferences Research Webinars Outreach

120 Physicians and Scientists

At the end of July, 120 physicians and scientists from all over the world gathered to discuss human biology and the influence of genes and environment on development. An entire morning's session was dedicated to CHARGE syndrome, with over 12 presentations on CHARGE. The fact that CHARGE was featured at any meeting (other than ours) is a big deal.

The keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Donna Martin (The University of Michigan and head of our Scientific Advisory Board), and a presentation was given by Dr. Ruchi Bajpai (CHARGE Syndrome Foundation pilot grant awardee). Many other clinical experts gave oral and poster presentations on various aspects of CHARGE syndrome diagnosis and treatment. Meg Hefner was an invited genetic counselor and representative of the CHARGE Syndrome Foundation. (Meg Hefner and Donna Martin are shown here at the David W. Smith meeting at the University of Madison, Wisconsin.)



Many of the leaders in the CHARGE field were present, including those whose original clinical descriptions led to breakthroughs in how CHARGE is diagnosed and recognized in the clinic (Dr. Bryan Hall, Dr. John Graham, Dr. Robert Erickson, to name a few). There was tremendous excitement about newly developed research in CHARGE, both in the laboratory and in the clinic. In brief, this conference provided a critical example of how CHARGE has become a leading consideration among geneticists, scientists and physicians. It was, simply put, a dream come true for the Foundation and the families it serves.



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