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Dear ESID Juniors Working Party,

I am writing to express my interest in becoming a country representative for Hong Kong for the ESID Juniors Working party. I am currently a resident trainee in The Division in Clinical Immunology of Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong.

Over the past two years, the medical world has seen an exciting shift of the spotlight towards Immunology, and this experience was similar in our locality. I was a member of the Task Force for COVID-19 Vaccine Allergy Safety in Hong Kong, and the first author for Hong Kong's COVID-19 Vaccine Allergy Safety Consensus Statements published on behalf of the Hong Kong Institute of Allergy. The statements were taken up by the Department of Health and served as COVID-19 Vaccine Allergy Safety guidelines for the country. I was also involved in designing numerous cross-discipline collaborations to assess patients referred for concerns of COVID-19 vaccine allergies. Our novel "Hub-and-Spoke" and Nurse Triage Clinic models successfully incorporated non-allergists and allied health into our clinics, allowing efficient and collaborative expansion of our services. These structures of training, supervision, and support are currently being expanded into territory-wide drug allergy delabeling initiatives.

Beyond vaccine and drug hypersensitivity, I am also interested in genetics/ genomics in the diagnosis of various immunodeficiency syndromes. I am involved in developing the genetic services for our clinical laboratory. Also as a representative participant in the Hong Kong Genome Project, I am an advocator for education in genetic counselling and communication with patients and their families regarding genetic testing and their diagnoses.

As a supporter and believer for collaborative work, I believe being a Country Representative embodies my values of inclusion, sharing, and inter-dependence to strive for excellence. ESID has always been the central hub for partnership and its Biennial Meeting probably the most exciting event of the year across the world. Asian countries have long been under-represented in global initiatives and research. It is evident that even though Asian patients share the same immunodeficiency diseases, our clinical phenotypes, symptom onset and presentation, prognosis and treatment responses, in-vitro diagnostics and genetic variants, are invariably different from our Western counterparts. There is so much untapped potential in exploring these differences, which can reveal new perspectives and understanding of the pathophysiology and mechanisms of immunity and immunodeficiencies, and potentially lead to significant developments and milestones.

I believe that Junior Members and Trainees have a unique voice in the Society and overall in the medical field. Our propositions and actions we take will strongly impact our future directions, and I am excited to make a positive impact together!

Yours sincerely,

Valerie Chiang