

ESID Country Rep Motivation

I, Dr. Aaqib Zaffar Banday, have been working in the field of clinical immunology for the past 6 years. I attained my clinical immunology training at the prestigious Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh India. This institution has been recognized as the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Education, Research and Training in Pediatric Immunology and Centre of Excellence in Immunodeficiency, Asia Pacific Society for Immunodeficiencies.

After the completion of my training, I have been actively involved in establishing clinical immunology services in Kashmir, a resource-limited region located in the North Indian Himalayan region. Having work experience at both ends of the spectrum of resources is very insightful - on one hand, having worked at one of the best immunology centers in the country, and on the other in a region where dedicated facilities for diagnosis and management of inborn errors of immunity (IEIs) are virtually non-existent. Such enriching experience has kept me updated with the latest cutting-edge advances in the field of immunodeficiency without having lost the insight of the numerous hurdles faced in resource-poor regions. Thus, as an ESID Junior country representative, I can serve my country much better where the disparity in services for diagnosis/management of IEIs (across various regions) is often stark.

My vision is equitable development of IEI care and research in the country. I view the role of ESID Country Representative as a valuable opportunity to improve the immunological avenues, expand research, and foster collaborative projects across the country. My special focus would include the inclusion of various centers working for the establishment of IEI healthcare services across various geographically, culturally, and socioeconomically diverse regions of the country. It will also provide me with a unique opportunity to strive hard for the betterment of the overall immunological endeavors and expand the horizon of research in the field of IEIs.

As an ESID country representative, my goal is optimal networking of healthcare professionals who are striving hard to establish immunology services in the most challenging circumstances. I aim to connect myself and all such die-hard immunology healthcare workers with the global leaders in the field. I am committed to leveraging the great avenues provided by ESID to transform lives and hope to earn your support for this opportunity.