

## **To Whom It May Concern**

I am Abarna Thangaraj, from Chandigarh, India. I would like to present my candidature for **ESID Junior country representative** from **India**.

I am a Trainee Fellow (Senior Resident) in Paediatric Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at the Advanced Paediatrics Centre, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, India. This is the first, and till date the only such, training course in Paediatric Immunology in India. Our centre also has the unique privilege of being the first designated Centre for Advanced Research in Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases (PIDs) in India under the auspicious of Indian Council of Medical Research and Department of Health Research, Government of India. We also have one of the largest registries of patients with PIDs in India.

During the 3 years fellowship training at Chandigarh my course curriculum involves clinical management of children with a wide spectrum of PIDs. We are also required to work in the immunology laboratory in our unit and perform bench-work related to PIDs. This includes detailed flow-cytometry, nephelometry, DNA extractions and polymerase chain reactions. In addition, our laboratory has recently started genetic analysis in form next generation sequencing. As our unit is actively involved in the clinical management of children with PIDs and as I also have reasonable proficiency in laboratory techniques related to diagnosis of these disorders,

I applied for the ESID short term fellowship 2024 and grateful to the organizers for accepting my application. Previous country representative from India **Dr Vignesh Pandiarajan, Dr Rakesh Pilania, Dr Ankur Kumar Jindal** were my seniors. I personally know their capabilities and leadership qualities and I have learned many such from them. Dr Rakesh Kumar Pilania is my mentor for thesis dissertation and he shared his experience of Junior country representative.

I believe this experience would also contribute significantly to my personal growth, by getting introduced to how a society is working. I could contribute to the society with my organizational skills and enthusiasm. I am both clinician and reasonable proficiency in

laboratory work. I am well versed with the use of technology and also active on social media, which are essential need for now a days.

This nourishing environment so focused on education on one side and scientific research on the other is, to me, the best example of what a scientific society should be. Therefore, It would be a huge honour to represent the country representative on the ESID Junior working party.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Abarna Thangaraj  
Senior Resident  
DM Fellow Pediatric Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology  
E mail: dr.abarna.t@gmail.com

Phone no: +91-9443880637