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Motivation Letter and Program Outline for ESID Clinical Working Party Chair 2024-2028 application.

Milan, August 14, 2024

Dear colleagues,

Herewith I am applying for the position of the ESID Clinical Working Party Chair 2024-2028 and ESID board, with the desire to promote the growth and the evolution of our society for the coming years.

I have been an ESID member for about 15 years and I have always trusted in scientific sharing within society and networking as the keys to success, for the benefit of patients and scientific community and to loyal and friendly collaborative relationships.

My education and PhD together with the experience that I have enthusiastically gained over the last 15 years in my academic institution in the characterization of new immunodeficiencies, in new individual-based therapies, in particular gene therapy, and in their long-term effects, have made me see first-hand the importance of translating scientific advances into real-life therapies, which are opening up new frontiers in Medicine. Collaborating with pharmaceutical industry and not for profit entities and interacting with regulatory authorities for the marketing authorization of ATMPs (and its maintenance) boosted my ability to collaborate effectively with cross-functional teams and healthcare professionals and made me aware of the value of clear and continuous communication with different stakeholders. It also made me sensitive to issues related to the need for across-Europe homogeneity in diagnosis and treatment sustainability for patients with ultra-rare diseases.

As a young doctor in my early forties, I believe in promoting education of the numerous junior ESID members. I have taken part in national and international collaborative studies and I have personally proposed investigations on a European scale and between ESID and EBMT working parties.

Some of the specific aims I would like to achieve are:

1. To promote the best clinical guidance through a “bench to bedside” approach and to identify areas for future research, making the best of basic and clinical research and clinical expertise
2. To collect data from multicenter case series among ESID and other scientific societies, such as EBMT and national societies on immunodeficiencies, to highlight the best treatments for specific PIDs
3. To implement data collection in the ESID registries
4. To create new career paths through educational events for young immunologists and to support their mobility between the best centers in Europe through networking and exchange.

I am excited about the opportunity to bring my skills and experience to the dynamic, innovative and friendly ESID team, and explore how my research- and patient-centric perspective can drive the outcomes of the Clinical Working Party in the next years.

Thank you very much for considering my application.

Best regards, Maria Pia Cicalese