

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is a great honor for me to be in the list of candidates for the Chair for ILAE-Asia/Oceania 2021-2025.

I start my career in epilepsy in 1988 following Dr. M Seino in the national epilepsy center of Japan. I have made continuous progress and contributions in this field since then. As one of the active leaders of the Asian Epilepsy Academy (ASEPA), I have organized more than 20 epilepsy teaching courses of ASEPA, which greatly improved the understanding on epilepsy in the region. I have introduced the ASEPA EEG examination to China and it has now become a national EEG examination; and more than 1,600 doctors have been trained and passed the examination. I also served in the Neurobiology Commission and as a Co-Chair of the Epilepsy Education Task Force in ILAE, and have organized many domestic and international epilepsy conferences in recent years. These experiences will help me in future works as a leader of ILAE-Asia/Oceania.

I believe that it is our mission to enhance collaborative education, training, and research in this region. My experiences in ASEPA in the past 20 years taught me that one of the great challenges and opportunities will be the training of new epileptologists in underserved areas. It is a powerful measure to solve other problems such as treatment gap and stigma. To substantially improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy, collaborative researches are absolutely necessary, typically shown by previous collaborative studies in this region on HLA and risk of Stevens-Johnson syndrome, which decreased in prevalence greatly in recent years. China Epilepsy Gene 1.0 Project (<http://www.epg1.cn/>), in which more than 3,000 trios have been sequenced and more than 100 doctors have been trained, would bring new experiences on collaborative researches and be helpful for diagnosis and management of epilepsy. On the other side, I think dissemination of ILAE information about epilepsy and cooperation with other chapters or in other areas are also important missions. If I have the honor being elected, I will surely do my best to work, towards the target of improving the global situation for people with epilepsy.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Liao' followed by a stylized flourish.

Weiping Liao