



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission



# ERC INTERVIEW

**Emma Motrico**

[www.emmamotrico.com](http://www.emmamotrico.com)

E-Perinatal. Panel SH4  
ERC Starting Grant 2021



# Proposal

- **Title.** “Universal prevention of maternal perinatal mental disorders and its implementation as normalized routine practice” (e-Perinatal)
- **Panel presented.** LS7: Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Human Diseases
- **Date:** 12 April 2021

# ERC Interview

---

Evaluation letter: 8 July 2021

---

Evaluation panel: SH4 

---

Date interview: 05 October 2021

---

10.20-11.30 Brussels time

---

WebEx guidelines

## **Interview characteristics**

- 10 minutes presentation + 15 minutes questions
- Power point
- Movie clips
- Back-up slides NO allowed

# Online interview preparation

---

1. Psychological

---

2. Resources

---

3. Feedback & practice

---

4. Evaluation

---

5. The online interview



# First Step: Psychological

## Fears and stress

- I am not good enough, 'The proposal will have many flaws'
- Fears to fail, 'I don't know if I'm going to be able to do it'
- My English is not so good.

## Tips:

- Ambition and desire for self-improvement
- Humility (I need peers and experts during the preparation)
- Family support

## Second Step: Resources identification

- 1) Time: meeting with head of the department and delegation of tasks
- 2) Presentation/Pitch: English teacher and pitch trainer
- 3) Videoconference
- 4) Identification of the questions: International experts , other ERC grantees, colleagues in the research group and department.



### **Tips:**

- Prepare an email to send to the experts/other colleges.
- Identify experts from different backgrounds.

## Third step: Feedback & Practice

English teacher  
1,5h/week and pitch  
trainer course (FECYT)

Feedback from 6  
international experts , 2  
ERC grantees, 20  
colleagues in the  
research group and  
department

Support from IT  
department from my  
University



### **Tips:**

- Start as soon as possible
- Present the proposal as much as you can. I presented more than 30 times!!
- Practice in WebEx as the real interview.

# Fourth Step: Evaluation

Presentation

Identify main messages for the presentation

Questions

Final list of the questions: minor and mayor questions .

Online interview

Ensure online interview (Post-it in the computer, Lamp for light)



## **Tips:**

- Take to integrate comments from all
- Concentrate in the main messages and fundamental questions.



# The online interview

- **Interviewers:** Panel chair and all the members of the panel (N=18)
  - Panel chair introduced me and explain the process.
- **Presentation was ok**, no questions about it.
- **Questions:**
  - The panel chair did not ask any question, but 1 question per member.
  - Approx.. 12-15 questions.
  - **Topics:** recruitment of the participants, stakeholders, contingency plan, ethical issues, Gantt chart with timing of work packages , etc.



# Main questions in the interview & report



**NOVELTY**



**THEORETICAL ISSUES**



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission



THANK YOU!

**Emma Motrico**

[www.emmamotrico.com](http://www.emmamotrico.com)