

Maria Giovanna Ruggiu

Project title: Project title: the impact of early introduction of the Ketogenic diet in patients with Epilepsy with Myoclonic-Atonic Seizures (EMAS)

Duration	6 month
Short Bio	After graduating in medicine, I embarked on a specialization in child neuropsychiatry in Verona, with a primary focus on the field of epilepsy. Specifically, I directed my attention towards rare epilepsies and neurometabolic disorders. I have actively participated in LICE conferences, occasionally submitting abstracts and delivering oral presentations. Subsequently, I pursued a 7-month stint in Paris to delve deeper into this subject matter and acquire novel approaches to diagnosis and treatment.
Home Institution	Verona University – Ospedale Donna e Bambino
Host institution	Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades in Paris
Project description	In a collaborative multicenter study between Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades in Paris and Ospedale della Donna e del Bambino in Verona, we conducted a retrospective analysis on Epilepsy with Myoclonic-Atonic Seizures (EMAS) patients. Our aim was to comprehensively explore clinical, EEG, and neuropsychological characteristics, focusing on treatment evolution and the influence of the ketogenic diet. The study spanned 2010 to 2022 and included patients from both institutions with confirmed EMAS diagnosis and at least one year of follow-up.
Personal statement	The EJPRD fellowship has significantly advanced my career by immersing me in rare epilepsies and neurodegenerative disorders research. Collaborating with experts and adopting innovative methods has expanded my knowledge and improved patient care. The fellowship has fostered collaborative ties and knowledge exchange, enhancing our network's diagnostic and treatment capabilities, ultimately benefiting patient outcomes.