The most important component of research is curiosity. If you ever wondered about how things work, and you looked for an answer, you did research. It’s like keeping a bit of sense of wonder, feeling like a child again, when you’re surprised by how amazing the world is.

Some people really want to find answers to their questions. Those are the most valuable researchers, the ones who have passion, which is the second essential ingredient in my opinion. And serendipity: being a bit stubborn will produce good results, even if sometimes they were not what you were looking for.

You also need creativity: look at things from different perspectives, find new ways to investigate them, imagine new applications for what surrounds you. Well, for example, here at the Robotics and Autonomous group, with which the School of Clinical Sciences is collaborating on a grant recently won, they have a lot of creativity…