

# CHECKLIST

## FOR WRITING ABSTRACT APPLICATIONS

### PROJECT TITLE

- Is my chosen title concise (clear and short)?
- Does the title summarise the research idea?
- Does every word aid understanding (serve a useful purpose)?
- Have I avoided abbreviations?

### STUDY BACKGROUND/INTRODUCTION

- Have I briefly summarised the current state of knowledge of the topic with relevant gaps, shortcomings or limitations?
- Have I described the rationale for conducting this study, for example by explaining how the generated knowledge will fill an existing gap?

### CLINICAL RELEVANCE

- Does my research fulfil a translational approach?
- Have I stated how my findings may affect clinical practice?

### RESEARCH QUESTION, HYPOTHESIS AND AIMS OF THE PROJECT

- Is my research question innovative?
- Is my overall hypothesis testable, i.e. can I generate data to support or disprove my hypothesis?
- Is the hypothesis linked to the primary outcome of the study?
- Are my aims specific (independent), measurable, relevant and achievable in the allowed time frame?

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Have I chosen sound and robust methods (design of experiments) to answer the specific aims and hypothesis?
- Are the study design, model and materials appropriate for evaluating the primary outcome of the study?
- If applicable, have I described the following: number of groups, test and control groups, sample sizes, outcome variables, study endpoints, randomisation, blinding and calibration?
- Have I described how the data will be analysed?
- In case of statistical analysis: have I formulated a null hypothesis that connects an independent with a dependent variable?

### FACILITIES AND EXPERTISE

- Do I have the institutional support to execute the proposed research?
- Have I mentioned the team members needed to successfully conduct the study, plus their relevant expertise?
- Do I have access to the required equipment and the budget for it?
- Are collaborations in place to access remote equipment? Have I described them?

### REFERENCES

- Do I only use the most important and up-to-date references?
- Do I keep references to a minimum?