

RESEARCH STRATEGY

- Throughout use **bolding** or underlining effectively. If all the reviewer read was this highlighted text, they should have a good idea of what you are doing and why.
- Use clear, consistent section headings.
- You can re-use text from your Specific Aims (and should), because the Aims is essentially a content outline.
- Hint: use spacing between paragraphs option, not a full paragraph, which allows for greater flexibility if you need to 'buy' space.

SIGNIFICANCE

Overall Scientific Premise.

Prior research that provides foundation

While in general there is little research on this topic, and/or what exists is lacking.

Overall hypothesis...

The rationale: include a statement on this

Rigor: that the research will be conducted on well-founded principles and methods.

INNOVATION.

What's new – method, population, theory, data...

APPROACH

Specific Aim #n=1,...,≤ 4:

Scientific Premise Aim n.

Empirical Approach. (choose relevant sections)

Approach to be used (e.g., linking data)

Overview of method(s) to be used

Reproducibility. Somewhere you should be explicit about this.

Potential sources of variation that you will account for (e.g., sex)

Statistical analysis (don't overwhelm with detail)

Controls

Detailed expectations (very important)

How results will be interpreted

Include preliminary results if applicable to Aim.

Preliminary Results. Not required for R03, optional for R21. Check FOA.

Expected Outcomes. What we'll know/be able to do at end of research

Potential Pitfalls. What could go wrong and how will you deal with it.

TIMELINE (it may be possible to include this in the Human Subjects section only, and refer the reader to it. Check your FOA instructions)

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Where research will take (a) field and (b) researcher