Heath Services and Primary Care Research Workshop

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Activity 1:

Identify which topic was assigned to you.

- Depression
- Antibiotic use
- Asthma
- Urinary tract infection
- Headache
- Allergic rhinitis
- Hypertension

Activity 2:

Expand on the basic research topic here in your own words, modified as needed to suit individual or group interests, environment, patients, resources, etc.

Activity 3:

With your group, write the research topic in the form of a “preliminary” question (draft 1).
Activity 4:

Define the variables from your question, as they are relevant to your topic. Place the
variables where they belong from a systems approach.
**Activity 5:** Re-write the question with greater specificity and detail (Draft 2).

**Activity 6:** Justify your research question using the FINER criteria—

A. Is the research question feasible to answer? What resources do you have access to that will support the protocol?

B. Is the research question interesting?

C. What funding agencies may find the research question interesting?

D. What professional meetings may find the research question interesting?

E. What journals may find the research question interesting?

F. Is the research question novel?

G. How will the research results potentially be used?
**Activity 7:**

Re-write the research question, refining it as needed (draft 3).

**Activity 8:**

A. Define each the terms in the research question.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8.

B. What are the relevant independent and dependent variables? Sources of data? How will the variables be measured?

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Measure</th>
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Plan Project from Start to Finish

**Time 0:** Identify research question. Complete literature search and literature review.

**A.** By __________ Develop refined research question.

**+ 4 wks** **B.** By __________ Complete written review of lit & description of research question. Get feedback.

**+ 1 wk** **C.** By __________ Identify necessary resources. Statistician:
   - Potential source of $: __________
   - Application deadline: __________

**+ 4 wks** **D.** By __________ Define study hypotheses, study outcomes (dependent variables) and variables to measure (independent variables).
   - Study design? __________
   - Other experts needed: __________
   - Identify colleague(s) for informal consultation/feedback? __________

**+ 3 wks** **E.** By __________ Statistician should define analysis goals. Build dummy tables.

**+ 4 wks** **F.** By __________ Complete written draft of protocol.
   - Submit for feedback from colleague. Agree on a specific date to return comments.
   - Date: __________ Negotiate approx 2 weeks.

**G.** By __________ Identify potential meetings for presentation/dissemination.
   - Clinical presentation? __________ Deadline: __________
   - Research presentation? __________ Deadline: __________

**H.** Can you complete a “Pilot Project” as a quality assessment study? If so, proceed and test methods.

**+ 3-4 wks** **I.** By __________ Revise as needed. Complete a package: Background, Importance, Protocol (methodology), Informed Consent form, etc.

**Simultaneously** **J.** By __________ Submit IRB application. How many copies? __________

**K.** By __________ Submit application to potential sponsor. Consider institutional review requirements (i.e., Sponsored Programs or Contracts and Grants). Use “IRB Approval Pending” if possible, to save time.

**L.** By __________ Receive IRB feedback and revise as needed. Resubmit if necessary by _______.

**M.** By __________ Begin data collection! Prepare data base and enter data while they are collected.

**N.** Target a journal for publication. Collect “Information for Authors.” Communicate with Editor.

**O.** By __________ Run preliminary data analyses. Test analysis goals and statistical programming and view preliminary results. Use in presentation proposal is necessary.

**P.** By __________ Complete data collection.

**Q.** By __________ Complete written manuscript, with a “shell” for analysis results.

**R.** By __________ Complete data entry.

**S.** By __________ Complete data cleaning: frequencies, descriptives, spot check for questionable outliers.

**T.** By __________ Complete data analyses. Receive Analysis Interpretation from statistician.

**U.** By __________ Submit proposal for presentation(s) to professional meeting(s).

**V.** By __________ Prepare draft of presentation for dissemination. Complete presentation.

**+ 3 months** **W.** By __________ Complete draft of manuscript for targeted journal.

**+ 1 month** **X.** By __________ Submit manuscript to journal for review.