

Guidance for Producing Adequate Lay Summaries

Please note the following 7 points of guidance for producing an adequate lay summary for the IRB/human protocol submission that you are currently editing. A good lay summary must be written at the sixth grade level and include:

1. A statement of the problem;
2. A statement of the purpose;
3. A description of the instruments used in the study and any intervention;
4. The number of participants in the study. Note that participant eligibility (i.e., who is allowed to participate) is more important than number;
5. The length of the study;
6. Specific study endpoints as well as potential beneficial and negative effects;
7. Notification to the subjects of the potential impact of the study.