

Study Outline and Preciis Scoring Rubric - 2009				
Criterion	Excellent - 4	Good - 3	Fair - 2	Unacceptable - 1
Title	Catchy, concise & fully informative	Concise & informative	Too wordy, missing information	Misleading, not informative
Research Question	Concisely stated as a clearly testable hypothesis that includes all the important factors	Question clearly stated	Poorly stated question, too broad or missing some of the factors	Unclear, untestable question
Specific Aims	Clearly defined and clearly accomplishable	Clearly defined and likely accomplishable	Very fuzzy and potentially too broad	Far too broad and impossible
Significance	Very novel approach and clinically very important	Novel and clinically relevant	Lacks in significance or novelty	"Me too ism" already well done
Approach	Strongest design including all important components	Strong design including key components to minimize bias and error	Potentially weak design or missing some key components	Inappropriate design for this question
Subject Accumulation	Concise, clear process definition with high success likelihood	Good criteria and process description with rate information	Failure to reach needed numbers likely	Poorly defined process, no information on rate
Variables	Concise, clear definition and full information on process for each variable	Good consideration of variables and methods for minimizing variability and confounding	Incomplete consideration of variables, especially confounders and bias	Improper or missing variables, improper measurement methods, no consideration of variation control
Statistical Analysis	Experienced biostatistician is clearly directly involved	Clearly and adequately addressed	Some potential statistical pitfalls	Proposed analysis is incorrect or unfeasible
Sample Size Estimation	Complete, clear sample size estimated with optimal method	Stated minimum difference and variance, method reference	Incorrect or incomplete estimation	No sample size assessment
Budget Estimation	Clear, complete, correct estimation within funding limits	Minor costs missing or incorrect	Missing or erroneous major costs	No budget estimation
Writing	Very concise, clear and logical writing that flows very well	Clear and logical but needs "Paramedic"	Some lack of clarity, excess verbosity, poor grammar or misspellings	Very sloppy, illogical, unclear or otherwise poor writing

Author _____ Reviewer _____ Score ____ / 44