

MET, instructions for writing a research plan

A research plan of 3 to 5 pages must be enclosed to the application for completing a scientific postgraduate degree. The research plan must have the acceptance of the supervisors and the follow-up group. The research plan should cover the entire dissertation/thesis project. If the subject of the dissertation/thesis or the mode of completion (e.g. from an article-based dissertation with articles published separately to a monograph) changes substantially, a new research plan should be submitted for approval to the Doctoral Programme's Steering Group of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Technology. The indicative structure of the research plan is described below. The plan can be written in Finnish or English.

1. Name of applicant

2. Name of the study

- in both Finnish and English

3. Background and problems with research

- contains a brief summary of the background of the study with essential literary references.

4. Objectives and importance of research

- includes objectives succinctly (e.g., general objective and identified objectives). Also includes a brief description of the significance and impact of the study.

5. Material and Methods

- includes, where applicable, a general description of the methods, material and experimental arrangements used, as well as laboratory animals, patient data and statistics
- the choice of methods must be justified
- the description of the methods should include the principle, not the technical details

-In the work of medicine, you should describe:

- number of patients/subjects and selection criteria
- data sources used (e.g. measurements, medical reports, registers) and method of collection (prospective, retrospective)
- variables used in analysis: main response variable, explanatory factors, confounding factors
- sample size and its justification, preferably the statistical power calculation and the expected number of response events or the expected distribution of response rates and the magnitude of the biological/clinical/public health difference
- statistical processing (statistical methods, randomization, reliability, group sizes, etc.)
- for qualitative research, the principles of the methodology concerned shall be followed
- if the work involves the use of laboratory animals, it should be described and justified

6. Study Implementation

- Form of study (monograph or subpublications based). Breakdown of possible subjobs and description of the questionnaire/content.

7. Study site, research group and supervisors

8. Research Schedule

- describe the schedule and publication plan of the various phases/subworks of the study

9. Ethical considerations

- describe the ethical considerations that may be taken into account in the investigation and assess whether an Ethics Commission Opinion/Animal Permit is required.

10. Literary references

- Key literature references in the field according to the dissertation guidelines. The reference list should be comprehensive and diverse.