

## “X” MODEL FOR A GRANT NARRATIVE – Need Statement example

The first sentence is the “hook” that introduces the reviewers to your proposed project and quickly captures their attention. This should convey a sense of urgency – why is YOUR project critical?

In succeeding sentences, state the research/clinical need – what is the current state, and why it is so critical that your laboratory have your project up and running.

There is a “gap” between the current state and the ideal state, achieved after your project has had its beneficial outcomes realized. Use hard data – demographics, health statistics, etc.

Restate the CRITICAL NEED for the research/clinical community, and why YOUR project is the best return on investment for both the scholarly community and for the benefit to the affected population. You MUST write about your lab/group and its unique qualifications and capacity to do this project.

Getting more specific as you approach the SPECIFIC SOLUTION to the therapeutic need:



## YOUR PROPOSED PROJECT



Now, you will need to present some credible rationale and evidence that YOUR project will answer the need.

Use preliminary data/examples from your other successful projects in other contexts, and if you can reference other funded projects from the same funder, that’s a plus. You are getting less and less specific.....

because at the end of this section, you will introduce the generalized

### BENEFICIAL OUTCOMES

....you will provide the next “hook” with a promise to completely explain these pay-offs and how they will (1) solve the healthcare need with a workable, sustainable solution, and (2) provide the funder with the best return on investment – try to always present the best WIN-WIN proposition so that the reviewers are left with the impression that YOUR project is an excellent “fit” for the goals of the funding agency or foundation AND the best use of their precious \$\$\$.

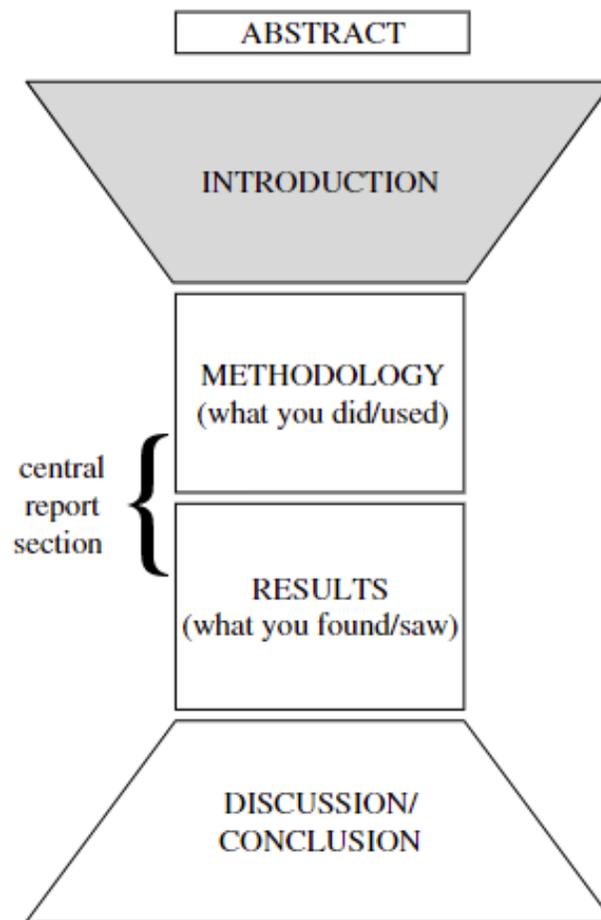


Fig. 1. The shape of a research article or thesis.

“The first thing you may notice about Fig. 1 is that it is symmetrical. This is because many of the things you need to do in the Introduction are done – in reverse order – in the Discussion/Conclusion. For example, you need to write an opening sentence which enables you and your reader to ‘get in’ or start your paper/thesis and you also need to ‘get out’ at the end of the Discussion/Conclusion by finding an acceptable way to end the paper/thesis. In addition, you must look for a way to interface with the central report section at the end of the Introduction, and again – in reverse – when you move out of the central section to start the Discussion/Conclusion.

Something else you should notice about the shape of the diagram is that it narrows towards the central report section, and widens after it. This represents the way information is ordered in the Introduction and the Discussion/Conclusion: in the Introduction you start out by being fairly general and gradually narrow your focus, whereas the opposite is true in the Discussion/Conclusion.”