FORMAT OF SYNOPSIS

Research Cell – Bacha Khan Medical Complex / MTI Mardan Medical Complex

Before starting a research project, students, FCPS trainees, and postgraduate residents must submit a synopsis to the Research Cell, Bacha Khan Medical Complex / MTI Mardan Medical Complex (MMC) for approval. The synopsis is a brief outline of the proposed research, limited to approximately four A4-sized pages or a maximum of 1,000 words.

A synopsis must have the following headings:

TITLE:
Should reflect the objectives of the study. It must be written after the whole synopsis has been written so that it is a true representative of the plan (i.e. the synopsis).

INTRODUCTION:
Should contain a brief background of the selected topic. It must identify the importance of the study, its relevance, and applicability of results. It must clearly state the purpose of the study.

OBJECTIVES:
An objective is an intent of what the researcher wants to do, stated in clear measurable terms.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:
Definition of the exposure and outcome variables of interest in context to objectives in a particular study and their means of measurement/determination.

Examples:
- Anemia
- Effectiveness

- PPH
- Wound healing

HYPOTHESIS:

A hypothesis is a statement showing expected relation between 2 variables. A hypothesis is needed in the following study designs:

1. All interventional studies
2. Cohort
3. Case control

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

- STUDY DESIGN: Mention the name of the appropriate study design.
- SETTING: Research will be conducted at Bacha Khan Medical Complex / MTI Mardan Medical Complex.
- DURATION OF STUDY: Indicate the total study duration.
- SAMPLE SIZE: State number of participants. If there are groups, mention number in each group.
- SAMPLING TECHNIQUE: Type of sampling technique employed.
- SAMPLE SELECTION:
  - Inclusion criteria: On what basis will patients/participants be inducted in the study?
  - Exclusion criteria: On what basis will patients/participants be excluded from the study?

- DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE:

Detailed account of how the research will be performed and how variables will be measured. It includes:

  - Identification of the study variables
  - Methods for collection of data
  - Data collection tools (proforma/questionnaire)
  - Informed consent form

- DATA ANALYSIS PLAN:

Relevant details naming statistical software to be used, descriptive statistics, and tests of significance if required, specifying variables where they will be applied.

REFERENCES:

Use Vancouver style for citations.

DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT:

Attach, as an annex, the proforma or questionnaire and informed consent form with the help of which data will be collected. The proforma/questionnaire must match the objectives and must not contain irrelevant sections like inclusion and exclusion criteria etc.

CHECKLIST OF DOCUMENTS TO BE ATTACHED WITH SYNOPSIS

Required Document	Attached (✔/✘)
Synopsis (soft)	
Data collection tool (proforma/questionnaire)	
Informed consent form	
Approval letter from supervisor(s)	
Proof of registration (student card / trainee certificate / PG resident notification)	