

**Title of your research project**

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Principal Investigator: List name and degree (students may not be PI)  
Co-Investigator(s): List names and degrees, include your statistician

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine  
1 Kneeland St.  
Boston, MA 02111

Date:

**Summary**

*What are you going to do? Why? What is the value of this project? Please give an overall summary of your study of approximately 1-2 paragraphs. This should include an overview of your methods and expected outcomes.*

**Background**

*Give background information regarding your study; include information regarding other studies as applicable. Only include information pertaining directly to the study. Cite your references.*

**Hypothesis/Specific Aims**

*Clearly state the aim/hypothesis of the study. If there are several, list and number them. If you are conducting qualitative or exploratory research, you may not need a hypothesis, but your research questions should be broken into several parts and stated as specific aims of the study.*

**Significance**

*State the significance of the study. For example, might the results of this study effect what a dental practitioner will choose to use in his/her practice?*

**Research Design, Materials and Methods**

*Explain in detail how your research will be conducted.*

* *How will you select your journals to examine (years, US only, etc.)*
* *What databases will you search*
* *What search terms will you use*
* *What information will you be capturing*
* *How will you be collecting your data*

**Location of Research Activities**

*Tufts University School of Dental Medicine,   
If there will be any other locations, list them here.*

**Confidentiality**

*State how data will be kept confidential.*

If you are not collecting identifying information, you may state, “No identifying information will be collected.”

If you are collecting identifying information (e.g., patient information), you must state what data you will collect, how you will store it (e.g., PI’s office, Tufts BOX, password protected computer), and how it will be kept confidential (if the data will be coded, etc.).

*Some of this language will be specific to your study; Dental Research Administration will assist with this.*

**Data Storage**

*State how the data will be stored.*

If you have paper documents list where they will be kept. You may use the following language, “Paperwork will be kept in a locked cabinet, in a locked room (*e.g. PI’s Office*).”

If you will have electronic data, it must be kept password protected. We suggest using Tufts BOX. You may use the following language, “Electronic data will be stored on Tufts BOX which is HIPPA compliant, and will only be accessible by study team members.”

**Data Analysis**

*Put the statistical analysis that you agreed upon with the statistician in this section.*

**References**

*References should be in an appropriate style (ex. MLA, APA) and should be placed in the order they occur in the document. All references should be numbered in the document and in this section.*

**NOTE:** If necessary, you may also add sections to your protocol