

Date: June 12th, 2024

Dear IMS MSc Candidate:

RE: Grant Brief Peer Revision

I hope this letter finds you well. I had the pleasure of reviewing your grant brief which comprises of the following items: a **visual abstract**, **lay summary**, opportunities for **Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP)**, and a **sex and gender-based analysis**. Based on your work, please find my feedback outlined, which aims to enhance your current project and provide focus points for your future endeavors. I have organized my comments to reflect each section in your grant brief.

I will begin by reviewing your **visual abstract**. You did a great job with selecting and maintaining the overall color scheme. However, I recommend avoiding placing dark icons on dark backgrounds, as it limits visibility. I appreciate the flow of your information, specifically the separation of sections like 'Themes' and 'Overview', however consistent formatting is needed, since 'Themes' is difficult to see. In addition, I recommend making 'Impact' a distinct heading like 'Themes' and 'Overview' for more clarity, which leads to a beginning (Overview), middle (Themes), and end (Impact) nature of storytelling. Moving to the **lay summary**, I like how you organized it into three sections for easy reading. A suggestion would be to ensure that you are not repeating the same ideas twice; you can merge sentences to minimize redundancy. For more context, I would list the theme in a few words, instead of a single word followed by colon. I admire how you try to make your conclusion all-encapsulating, however it has resulted in it being vague, a specific instance of this is 'build foundations for future scientists' as it is not explained how this will be accomplished. In your **HQP statement**, I like how you recognize the different levels of education and how your training philosophy caters to future academic endeavors. It would be beneficial to incorporate a statement on how you plan to monitor HQP success in your training philosophy. Also, I would focus on integrating a thorough research training plan that allows HQP to be adequately prepared for the current research project, before setting expectations. In addition, I suggest including how the research team will provide career growth opportunities, to showcase the working environment. I appreciate how you have a section for EDI which emphasizes its importance in a research environment. Lastly, I will review your **sex and gender-based analysis**. I think you did a great job of providing specific examples and stating the importance of this analysis for inclusivity. A recommendation is to ensure that you clearly state the difference between sex and gender, as when you state 'identify as female' it is unclear what you are referencing. Additionally, I would suggest stating how you are collecting data for this analysis, as it is also unclear. Moreover, ensure correct grammar and spelling throughout your work as there are a few grammatical errors. Furthermore, employ the same writing tense throughout for additional consistency and readability.

As a final statement, your work is well thought-out and suitably considers major concepts. I believe addressing the given feedback will lead to enhanced clarity and consistency in your grant brief. I wish you the best in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,
Peer Reviewer
IMS MSc Candidate
Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry
Western University