

## Suggested structure of a PhD Outline article

### *Abstract*

Should be a brief summary, max 300 words, of the rationales for your study followed by the overall aim and methods and concluding with the expected results and potential impact from your findings.

### *Background*

Here you motivate for the relevance of your PhD work and, based on a summary of the literature, identify knowledge gaps that your study will contribute to filling. A personal reflection on why and how you chose the topic for your PhD work may also be included here.

### *Aims*

This section should clearly state the overall aim of the PhD work followed by a set of specific aims.

### *Methodological considerations*

With reference to the aims of the studies you should briefly motivate for why certain measurements or study designs have been opted for in your PhD work. Summarize briefly any pilot studies that have been done as part of the planning process. Specifically, if a mixed methods design will be used, motivate for the additional value of combining methods. Relate the chosen methods to the stated aims and research questions.

### *Ethical issues*

Identify what ethical issues are involved in your study and whether and how informed consent and ethical clearance have been sought.

### *Expected results*

Discuss specifically any challenges you may encounter during the course of the work and how these will be met. By referring to the background rationales, give an account of what results you envisage and how you will assess the validity and trustworthiness of your findings.

### *Feasibility*

Describe how you have designed the studies to make them feasible to carry out.

### *Impact*

The outline should conclude with a section on how your findings may contribute to health policy, prevention and practice locally and nationally and specifically address the relevance also for other fragile states. Discuss how feed-back to study participants or community members will be done prior to publishing of your findings.