

GETTING STARTED GET SUPPORT & ADVICE WITH YOUR RESEARCH

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DESIGNING CLINICAL RESEARCH FOR MATERNAL HEALTH

PROF ADETUNJI O. ADENIJI

(MBBS, M.D, FWACS, FMCOG, FICS)

PROFESSOR & CONSULTANT (OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY)

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, LADOKE AKINTOLA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY/LADOKE AKINTOLA
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY TEACHING HOSPITAL, OGBOMOSO, NIGERIA

&

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE & ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE/UNIVERSITY OF
SIERRA LEONE TEACHING HOSPITALS COMPLEX, FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

WHAT IS RESEARCH?

The **systematic investigation** into and study of materials and sources in order to **establish facts** and reach **new conclusions**

- Oxford English Dictionary

N:B

- ▶ No study is completely flawless
- ▶ Not all Researches must be Novel, but Unique
- ▶

PROCESS OF HEALTH RESEARCH

QUESTIONS TO ADDRESS	COMPONENT OF DESIGN
What is the problem?	Problem statement & justification
What question are we trying to solve?	Definition of research question
What do we know about already?	Literature review
How do we answer the question?	Selection of study type & design
What information do we need?	Selection of variables
What tools do we need?	Data collection techniques – depends on type of study
Where could we collect data?	Sampling
Can the study harm anyone?	Ethical approval
How do we collect the data?	Plan for data collection – who, when + pre-testing study methodology
What do we do with the data?	Processing & analysis, reporting, dissemination & feedback

- ▶ CAREFULLY PICK PROBLEM - IDENTIFY RESEARCH TOPIC
- ▶ REFLECT ON FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE - RESEARCH QUESTION(S)
 - SIMPLE - FEWER THE BETTER
- ▶ RELEVANCE OF PROBLEM - IMPORTANCE & RELEVANCE - JUSTIFICATION(S)
 - No study is completely flawless

However

- HELPS SOLVE A PRACTICAL OR THEORETICAL PROBLEM
- ADDRESSES A GAP IN THE LITERATURE
- BUILDS ON EXISTING RESEARCH
- PROPOSES A NEW UNDERSTANDING OF THE TOPIC

WHAT ARE KNOWN ON THE ISSUE - LITERATURE SEARCH

- ▶ Google Scholar
- ▶ Pubmed central
- ▶ Medline
- ▶ EMBASE
- ▶ African Journal Online (AJOL)**
- ▶ Cochrane Library
- ▶ Social Science Research Network
- ▶ HINARI
- ▶ CINAHL: Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health

- ▶ IDENTIFY GAPS IN KNOWLEDGE

- ▶ DISCUSS CONCEPT WITH ADVISOR
 - **METHODOLOGY**
 - ▶ Limitations/Shortcoming of Previous studies
 - ▶ Alternative Approaches (Improvements on previous studies)
 - **REQUIREMENTS**
 - **COST IMPLICATION - FEASIBLE & AFFORDABLE**
 - **FUNDING & SOURCES** - Personal, Grants (Departmental, Institutional, NGOs, **Corporate Organisations, National & International)

- ▶ BE PREPARED IN CONJUNCTION WITH YOUR ADVISOR TO SHARE WITH FACULTIES/DEPARTMENT

- ▶ SET ACHIEVABLE TIMELINE/WORKPLAN

- ▶ SEEK & OBTAIN ETHICAL APPROVAL/REGISTER YOUR RESEARCH

ALL THE BEST IN THIS ACADEMIC JOURNEY

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The rest of the background is plain white.

**THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING**

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the frame, creating a modern, layered effect against the white background.