



Strong and weak examples

The good....

Specific, concise, simple language:

- By June 30 2017, success will be defined as having captured data on all childhood cancers diagnosed in Australia between 1983 and 2013 (approximately 19,000 eligible cases), including complete treatment data from all major paediatric treating hospitals for the period 1997-2013, with follow-up on mortality status to end of 2014.

Needn't be larger scale, just state what YOU are going to do during the grant life:

- Analysis of collected fecal samples every 6 months will provide information regarding the change in gut composition. We would anticipate that over 3 months we will have recruited 10-12 patients and at 6 months have a complete data set for this cohort.

...and the bad...

Vague:

- Each milestone will have the expected outcomes outlined so as to confirm that the objectives have been completed and was successful. Possible technical difficulties that may be encountered in the process will also be noted. This will allow time to troubleshoot and look at alternative methods early on the project.

Too much jargon:

- Key indicators of successfully achieving the set goal would be the completion of the clinical trial itself. Also achieving a successful outcome of showing Idebenone to be effective in the treatment of patients with OPA1 related DOA+.

"Saving the world" (in a 12-month grant!)

- The success of this project will be determined by the number of papers published in well-recognised journals globally, the filing of patents, awards received for recognition of scientific excellence, international conferences attended and elections to The Australian Academy of Sciences and other learned societies.