

COVID-19 Pilot Research Application Review Template

Principal Investigator(s): Jon Agle

Title of Application: Pilot Study of a Brief Informational Intervention for COVID-19 Misinformation Prophylaxis

The NIH scoring system defined below should be used for the scored criteria and the overall impact score (use only integer scores, no decimals).

| Impact | Score | Descriptor | Additional Guidance on Strengths/Weaknesses |
|---|-------|--------------|---|
| High | 1 | Exceptional | Exceptionally strong with essentially no weaknesses |
| | 2 | Outstanding | Extremely strong with negligible weaknesses |
| | 3 | Excellent | Very strong with only some minor weaknesses |
| Medium | 4 | Very Good | Strong but with numerous minor weaknesses |
| | 5 | Good | Strong but with at least one moderate weakness |
| | 6 | Satisfactory | Some strengths but also some moderate weaknesses |
| Low | 7 | Fair | Some strengths but with at least one major weakness |
| | 8 | Marginal | A few strengths and a few major weaknesses |
| | 9 | Poor | Very few strengths and numerous major weaknesses |
| <p>Minor Weakness: An easily addressable weakness that does not substantially lessen impact Moderate Weakness: A weakness that lessens impact Major Weakness: A weakness that severely limits impact</p> | | | |

OVERALL IMPACT

Reviewers will provide an overall impact score to reflect their assessment of the likelihood for the project to establish a sustained research program or significant new IP, in consideration of the following five scored review criteria, and the additional unscored review criteria. An application does not need to be strong in all categories to be judged likely to have major scientific impact.

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| <u>Overall Impact</u> | Score (1-9): |
| <p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely cost-effective project • Addressing a growing problem that, if demonstrated to be effective, could affect not only actions related to COVID-19 but other science-based issues as well <p>Weaknesses (Please categorize Major vs. Minor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need clearer explanation of how the infographic will be designed and piloted before studying | |

- Need clearer explanation of control and intervention messages to assess potential effect on knowledge checks

SCORED REVIEW CRITERIA

Reviewers will consider each of the five review criteria below in the determination of scientific and technical merit, and give a separate score for each.

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| 1. Significance | Score (1-9): |
| Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timely topic that could demonstrate cost effective outcomes• Creating evidence-based communication tools in response to calls from academic and public health professionals to avoid perpetuating existing information problems Weaknesses (Please categorize Major vs. Minor) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• | |
| 2. Investigator(s) | Score (1-9): |
| Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Previous studies in this area• Worked together on previous studies Weaknesses (Please categorize Major vs. Minor) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• | |
| 3. Innovation | Score (1-9): |
| Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Novel area of exploration within the topic of COVID-19• Ultimate output will be disseminated via social media platforms Weaknesses (Please categorize Major vs. Minor) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does not address already recognized influencing factors (need to address how those other factors noted in the proposal will be assessed, possibly controlled for, etc.) | |
| 4. Approach | Score (1-9): |
| Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nationally representative survey using validated recruitment strategies• Theoretically grounded survey constructs (HBM, TPB) Weaknesses (Please categorize Major vs. Minor) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No detailed discussion of how the infographic will be developed and tested before use (simply states 5 experts will give advice on wording and appearance)• Unclear what the control and intervention communication tools will communicate and how those might influence responses | |

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| 5. Environment | Score (1-9): |
| Strengths | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous studies support the use of Prolific as a nationally representative recruitment tool | |
| Weaknesses (Please categorize Major vs. Minor) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online data collection will not represent individuals who do not have Internet access or participate in online surveys | |

OTHER CRITERIA (NOT SCORED)

As applicable for the project proposed, reviewers will consider the following additional items in the determination of scientific and technical merit, but will not give separate scores for these items. Although these criteria will not be evaluated with a specific score, the overall evaluation of the application should take these factors into account.

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| Guidelines |
| Comments (Required Unless Not Applicable): |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • |

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| Budget and Period of Support |
| Recommended budget modifications or possible overlap identified: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More details need to be given about what the expert panel members will actually do when assisting in the development of the communication tool (and how that equates to \$250) |

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| Protections for Human Subjects |
| Comments (Required Unless Not Applicable): |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentioned following IRB guidelines |

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| Vertebrate Animals |
| Comments (Required Unless Not Applicable): |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a |

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| Biohazards |
| Comments (Required Unless Not Applicable): |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • n/a |

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|------------------------------|
| Resubmission |
| Comments (if applicable): |

- n/a

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO APPLICANT

Reviewers may provide guidance to the applicant or recommend against resubmission without fundamental revision.

[Additional Comments to Applicant](#) (Optional)

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