PRE-PUBLICATION WORKSHEET FOR BASIC SCIENCE STUDIES
Scientific Publications, Texas Heart Institute, Houston, Texas

Section I—Administration

1.	Title	
2.	Principal author/investigator	
3.	Departments and Institution(s)	
4.	Co-author(s)/Co-investigator(s) in order of their level of participation	
5.	Database of interest	
6.	If for manuscript, proposed journal	
7.	Have you received IACUC approval? Completed all necessary forms? Compliance with animal experimentation guidelines?	
8.	Deadline	

Section II—Audience

Who is the target audience for your study? Carefully consider target journal.

Section III—Hypotheses

State briefly what your study will address (broad objective, primary aim and hypothesis, secondary aims and hypotheses, or uniqueness of model). What is the research question and testable hypothesis?

Section IV—Background

State how this study will fill a gap in the scientific literature.

Section V—Study Design (NA for all sections not applicable to your study/report)

Definitions and examples can be found on the Scientific Publications page of the THI website at http://texasheart.org/scipub.

1. What type of study/manuscript is this: in vitro or in vivo?

2. What are the key messages to be conveyed?

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3. Number of animals (with species) or types of cells to be included in the study.

4. Describe animal model or cell type. Why was the specific model chosen?

5. Interventions (experimental and comparison) for animal studies and types of treatments for in vitro studies. Explain study design, including types of experiments. Clearly outline the steps used in the research protocol.

6. Outcome variables (dependent variables). What is the characteristic or outcome that is considered an endpoint for this study? (There may be more than one outcome variable in a study.)

7. Description of the methodology used in the study (cellular or molecular techniques). Sufficient detail must be provided to allow an experienced scientist to repeat experiments. Include methods information for each result described.

8. Statistics.

   Which statistics will you use in this study? What is the probability of detecting a result if the result really exists (the power calculation)? How was the sample size determined?

   Definitions and examples of types of statistics can be found on the Scientific Publications page of the THI website at http://texasheart.org/scipub.

9. Limitations. Please list any problems you anticipate having with your data (inaccurate measurements, absence of certain necessary variables, methodology problems, inability to extrapolate data to clinical situations, etc.).

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Section VI—Significance/Potential Impact on Practice or Research. Include potential clinical benefits or significant additions to the knowledge base of a particular animal model or mechanistic concept.

Section VII—Diagrams, tables, charts

Section VIII—Key References (if applicable)

1. _____

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2. _____

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3. _____

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Section X—Budget or Funding Source (if applicable), statement of disclosures, or author participation (consult Author's Instructions for target journal)

☐ **Approvals**

By (signature): _____

Date: _____

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