

Consistency and Accessibility

Writing in Plain, Accessible Language

Avoiding jargon and discipline-specific terminology: protocols should be easy to understand by a multidisciplinary Research Ethics Board whose members have a range of academic backgrounds

Provide clear explanations to non-expert reviewers about

- What you are doing
 - Why you are doing it, and
 - How you will protect participants
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Ensure consistency across all documents (inconsistencies are a common cause of revision requests). Information in the protocol must be consistent with information in

- Recruitment materials
- Consent form(s)
- Debriefing document(s)
- Scripts, study instruments or any other participant documents

Sometimes researchers reword or simplify phrases/terminology when appropriate to the participant group (e.g. children)