CHECKLIST FOR YOUR RESEARCH PROPOSAL
(Test for Success)

**Hypothesis**

Is this hypothesis important in this particular sphere of investigation? __YES____ NO ____

Is my hypothesis as stated, testable by feasible procedures? __YES____ NO ____

**Aims**

Are my specific aims logical? __YES____ NO ____

Have I chosen them carefully? __YES____ NO ____

Have I defined them well? __YES____ NO ____

Have I stated them clearly? __YES____ NO ____

Are the specific aims reasonable? __YES____ NO ____

Are the specific aims attainable? __YES____ NO ____

**Background**

Did I thoroughly collect the information for the background? __YES____ NO ____

Did I review this information critically? __YES____ NO ____

Have I logically organized the data and events that led to the present proposal? __YES____ NO ____

Have I proved that I am sufficiently familiar with this type of research by demonstrating a thorough understanding and balanced knowledge of the pertinent literature? __YES____ NO ____

Have I emphasized or clarified discrepancies found in the literature? __YES____ NO ____

**Significance of Proposal**

Will the results of my research fill a defined gap in our knowledge? __YES____ NO ____

Will it advance our understanding of this subject? __YES____ NO ____

Will it facilitate the development of valuable techniques? __YES____ NO ____
Will the results of my research facilitate the development of experimental models? YES  _____  NO  _____

Will it lead to reasonable treatment for some pathologic condition? YES  _____  NO  _____

Is my work important in relating my specific objectives to the hypothesis? YES  _____  NO  _____

Is the work likely to yield new conclusions that will have general biological value or practical clinical significance? YES  _____  NO  _____

**Preliminary Work**

Have my preliminary experiments demonstrated that the methods, procedures, techniques, and protocols are feasible? YES  _____  NO  _____

Are they adequate and appropriate? YES  _____  NO  _____

Have my preliminary experiments demonstrated that my hypothesis is readily testable? YES  _____  NO  _____

**Qualifications of Investigator**

Have my educational background, research experience, and preliminary demonstrated that:

I am qualified to perform the study? YES  _____  NO  _____

I have potential for doing productive work? YES  _____  NO  _____

I have the technical competence and skills needed for the proposed work? YES  _____  NO  _____

My results would be reliable and inspire confidence in my peers? YES  _____  NO  _____

**Design**

Is my design appropriate? YES  _____  NO  _____

Is my design valid? YES  _____  NO  _____

Is my design straightforward? YES  _____  NO  _____

Is my design well organized? YES  _____  NO  _____

Is my design logically conceived? YES  _____  NO  _____
Is my design lucidly described?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods reasonable?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods appropriate for the proposed investigation?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods carefully documented?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods well established?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods under my technical control?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods promising?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are my methods clearly described?  YES ____  NO  ____

Do the methods correspond to the specific aims?  YES ____  NO  ____

Am I using innovative procedures to overcome difficult technical problems?  YES ____  NO  ____

Are these innovative procedures feasible and well within my competence and experience?  YES ____  NO  ____

Do these procedures have obvious and clearly described advantages over the standard techniques now in use?  YES ____  NO  ____

**Problem Solving**

Have I anticipated and adequately discussed potential difficulties and obstacles in the approach I have chosen?  YES ____  NO  ____

Have I carefully considered the advantages and disadvantages of each method?  YES ____  NO  ____

Have I recognized the limitations of the methods and how these limitations can influence the analysis and interpretation of the experimental results?  YES ____  NO  ____

Am I fully aware of the difficulties that I may encounter in implementing the experimental plan and the specific methods?  YES ____  NO  ____

Have I convinced the reviewers that I will be able to circumvent anticipated, as well as unexpected difficulties?  YES ____  NO  ____
Have I proposed logical and appropriate alternatives to any experimental obstacles that might be encountered?  

Have I developed my research plan in a carefully focused step-by-step, straight-forward manner?  

Have I demonstrated that I have a clear understanding of the order or sequence of experiments as I will conduct them?  

Have I demonstrated an awareness of the underlying principles and the associated complexities of the area under study to ensure that I interpret my results appropriately?