Template for project descriptions - for applications for research funding from Samarbeidsorganet

Applications not in accordance with the template for project description will be rejected.

Format requirements
- The project description must be concise and written in English or Norwegian.
- Number of pages: Max. 10 pages including figures/tables and reference list (NB! 5 pages for mobility grants)
- Font: Equivalent to Arial 11 point or Times New Roman 12 point, single line spacing, minimum 2 cm margins. For the reference list and any text in figures, font size 9 may be used.
- The project description must be uploaded as an attachment in the eSøknad system in PDF format
- All other attachments must be uploaded as a combined file in PDF format (see Section 9).

1. Project title
   The title must reflect the project content. It must consist of a maximum of 150 characters.

2. Introduction
   The introduction must provide a brief description of the background for the project and the key knowledge challenges within the discipline. Provide a description of:
   - Current knowledge for the discipline
   - The greatest knowledge challenges in the discipline, both nationally and internationally
   - The background for the project
   - The significance of the research project for the discipline and/or originality

2.1. Benefits for treatment of patients
   The project applications must describe the expected benefits for the patient and the service, and how new knowledge can be applied in the service. In the application form in eSøknad, you must give an account of the project’s significance/benefits for treatment of patients (in the short and long term) and/or prevention of disease and/or the health services’ organizational structure and quality. Describe specifically whom the research will affect and how the results of the work may be useful. You may give an elaborate account of this in the project description if needed.

2.2. Skills development
   Explain whether the project contributes to the following:
   - Strengthening of the discipline
   - Necessary skills development in the health services
   - Development of methodology knowledge, techniques

3. Research questions and goals
   Research questions and/or hypotheses in the project must be presented clearly in relation to the primary and secondary goals. The goals should be clearly defined, concrete and verifiable. Provide a description of:
   - Research questions and/or hypotheses
   - Short-term and long-term goals
   - The results that are expected to be achieved during the project period
4. Plan for implementation

4.1. Study design, choice of methods and analyses
An account of the scientific method that has been chosen must be provided. Reasons must be given for the choice of methods, and how they are suitable for addressing the research questions and/or hypotheses must be explained. Where relevant, the statistical power needed to answer the research question should be calculated.

4.2. Organization and collaboration
The project description must include an overview of the project’s organization and collaborative constellations. All active partners in the project must be listed in the application form (eSøknad) and confirm the participation. Provide a description of:
- The project’s organizational structure and, if applicable, its positioning in the research group
- The expertise, infrastructure and other resources of the research community which are significant for the implementation of the project.
- The scope of external/regional/national/international collaboration in the project.
- If the project is to be carried out outside a health trust, e.g. NTNU, the collaboration with the clinic should be described in this section.

4.3. Budget
The budget should be included in the application form (eSøknad) and is not necessarily included in the project description unless it is very detailed and in-depth explanation is required. The budget must provide a good overview of the financial framework and must be consistent with the goals and content of the project. Expenses that are sought covered by the current call for applications should be listed with “Central Norway RHA” as the funding source. It is possible to register expenses that are covered by other funding sources (e.g., the Norwegian research council) in order to illustrate the scope of the project. Note that applications in the “Project funds” category should enter a budget under this item in the project description, in addition to the budget section of eSøknad. Applications for additional running costs to scientific positions must attach a budget in a separate form and do not need to include section 4.3. in the project description.

4.4. Progress schedule and publishing plan
The activity plan (milestone plan) for the project must be entered in the application form (eSøknad) and therefore does not need to be included in the project description. If it is considered necessary to give a more detailed description of the budget and activity plan, this may be provided as a separate attachment to the application (see Section 9).

4.5. Plan for implementation and dissemination
Provide a description of:
- The plan for implementation of the results from the research project
- The plan for dissemination: publications, articles, websites, lectures, popular science dissemination, etc.

5. User involvement
In this setting, users are referred to as patients and their dependents. Describe who the users of the results of the research project will be, and the extent to which users will be involved in planning and project implementation. If user participation is not regarded as relevant to the project, the reasons for this must be provided. Information about user involvement in research can be found on the webpages of Helse Midt-Norge. Applications that lack a description of user involvement, or lack an explanation for why user involvement is not relevant to the project, will be rejected.

6. Ethics
Explain any ethical issues associated with the research project, and how they will be handled in the research. If there are no ethical issues, this must be stated.
7. Innovation potential – optional point
The Central Norway RHA wishes to identify innovation potential in research and development projects and may be able to offer follow-up to projects that specify innovation potential. If applicable, please describe briefly the project’s innovation potential.

This point is only relevant for applicants who state that their project has innovation potential in the “classification” section of the eSøknad system and should not be included if the project does not have innovation potential. Those who apply for the earmarked positions with a specific focus on innovation are to clearly describe the project’s innovation aspect in a separate form.

8. References
The references must cite literature that supports the subject content of the project.

9. Attachments
Guidelines- and requirements for application attachments are found in the document “Guidelines requirements and regulations for the application categories”.