

## Writing Research in Plain English Worksheet

### **Remove and replace unnecessary words and information in the following sentences:**

Patient oriented research techniques have been extensively proven as highly valuable in the vast majority of health research topic areas.

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In spite of the fact that most common colds affecting the upper respiratory tract are of a viral origin, the prescription rate of antibiotics has continued to increase over time.

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### **Break up the following sentence into independent ideas:**

Because of the province-wide integrated healthcare system in Alberta, the challenges of conducting randomized registry trials such as variable health record storage schemes, tracking of visits across multiple clinics, and out-of-date contact information, can be overcome.

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### **Underline the main point of the following sentences:**

Enforced by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta, the Health Information Act protects the confidentiality of medical records.

Statistical planning of clinical trials is of the utmost importance given that the results are used to prove the safety and efficacy of new treatments.

### **Identify / correct passive voice and nominalization in the following sentences:**

The conclusion was reached that nosebleeds were not an indication of high blood pressure.

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Creatinine levels were analyzed as a demonstration of kidney function.

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Translate the following into simpler words or phrases:

Intravenous	_____	Susceptible	_____
Asymptomatic	_____	Cardiac Dysrhythmia	_____
Trachea	_____	Alleviate	_____
Radiologist	_____	Cerebral Hemorrhage	_____

Come up with an analogy to describe the following:

Cardiovascular System	_____
Kidney Function	_____
Osteoporosis	_____

Consider the following “medical” abstract:

Given that the >30% of Americans have a BMI > 30 and that the prevalence of obesity is increasing dramatically worldwide, obesity is second only to tobacco as a leading risk factor for cancer, with nearly 30 percent of cancers being directly attributable to obesity. Obesity is a complex physiological state that is associated with multiple molecular changes capable of inducing chronic inflammation in the gastrointestinal environment and leading to DNA mutations. We are conducting a crossover trial to determine the efficacy of twice-daily orally administered Inflammigon in stabilizing the dysregulation of various secreted inflammation-related molecules. We will be recruiting 250 obese subjects from the Narnia GI Clinic where a randomization algorithm will assign 50% of subjects to the Inflammigon-Placebo arm and 50% to the Placebo-Inflammigon arm. The trial will be conducted over the course of 4 weeks and the subjects will undergo phlebotomy twice per week. The determination of Inflammigon efficacy will be conducted by statistical analysis of inflammation biomarkers during treatment and placebo. The successful minimization of C-related protein serum levels during Inflammigon treatment may indicate this pharmaceutical as a prevention for obesity-related cancer.

Translate the relevant information into plain English:

Where? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

When? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number the sentences above in an order that tells a story