Planning for Writing Specific Aims

What is an important statistic or fact about the health problem you are addressing?

What do we already know about this question?

What is the major gap in knowledge that you are trying to fill?

Why is this important that we fill this gap? Why do we need to know this?

What is your long term goal?

What is your objective of this training and research program?

How does this relate to your long term goal?

How does this relate to the critical need or knowledge gap?

What do you think is happening (your central hypothesis)?

Why do you believe this hypothesis is true (cite papers, preliminary data)?

How are you going to do this (Specific Aims)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Aim | Approach | Hypothesis | Relation to Central Hypothesis |
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If this all works perfectly, what will be the result (e.g. how could surveillance, diagnosis, or treatment improve) for your topic of interest?