

Protocol Blueprint (PICO/PECO & Flow) — Service Segment

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Protocol Blueprint (PICO/PECO & Flow)

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Service Segment · Protocol Blueprint (PICO/PECO & Flow)

Charge: Rs 14800

We convert your aims and preliminary design ideas into a tight PICO or PECO framed question plus a clean study flow. This blueprint becomes the backbone for your protocol, ethics form, and grant write ups, and keeps design, feasibility, and statistics pointing in the same direction.

PICO or PECO table clearly specifying population, exposure or intervention, comparator, and outcomes

Short, reviewer friendly statement of the primary question and key comparisons

Mapping of each aim and hypothesis to one or more PICO or PECO elements

High level study flow diagram from screening to final analysis population

Notes on how the chosen design family (trial, cohort, case

control, cross sectional, lab experiment, etc.) fits your context

Ready to paste synopsis style text for protocol, ethics, or grant submissions

Workflow — How Protocol Blueprint (PICO/PECO & Flow) Runs

1. **Context and aim intake**

You share your broad topic, Discovery and Topic Framing outputs (if available), current aims, and any departmental or guide preferences about design.

2. **Clarifying the core problem and comparison**

We identify the main decision or uncertainty you want to address and what a meaningful comparison looks like in your field.

3. **PICO or PECO skeleton drafting**

A first pass PICO or PECO table is drafted, covering population, exposure or intervention, comparator, and primary outcome.

4. **Checking feasibility and realism**

The draft PICO or PECO is cross checked against feasibility notes (access, time, sample availability, approvals) so that the question is ambitious but realistic.

5. **Matching to design family**

We then map your context to the most defensible design family (randomised trial, quasi experimental, cohort, case control, cross sectional, lab or bench experiment, survey, etc.).

6. **Refining question wording**

Question wording is polished for reviewer friendliness, avoiding jargon where possible and aligning with common patterns in your domain.

7. **Study flow diagram construction**

A high level flow is created, typically showing source population, screening, eligibility, inclusion, follow up, and analysis sets (where relevant).

8. **Linking aims, endpoints, and flow**

We ensure that each stated aim can be traced to parts of the flow diagram and that downstream endpoints and variables will make sense.

9. Protocol and ethics ready text assembly

All of the above are condensed into short blocks that map to typical protocol headings such as Objectives, Research Question, and Overall Design.

10. Delivery and one refinement cycle

You receive the PICO or PECO table, flow diagram, and text blocks. After guide or internal feedback, one refinement cycle is included to adjust wording or structure.

What You Get in Your Protocol Blueprint Pack

- **PICO or PECO table** summarising the population, exposure or intervention, comparator, and main outcomes in a single view.
- **Primary question statement** phrased in reviewer friendly language that can be reused across synopsis, protocol, and grant sections.
- **Study design tag and short justification** indicating whether the study is experimental or observational and why that choice is defensible.
- **Study flow diagram** as an image (PNG or similar) that fits comfortably into protocols or presentations.
- **Synopsis style paragraphs** that describe the problem, PICO or PECO question, and overall design in continuous text.
- **Alignment notes** explaining how the blueprint connects back to Discovery and Topic Framing, and how it will support later sections on variables and statistics.

The output is intended to be simple enough for busy guides and reviewers to scan quickly, but detailed enough to anchor the rest of your design and analysis sections.

Detailed Deliverables, Formats, and Service Boundaries

Deliverables and formats

- One **PICO or PECO table** in DOCX or spreadsheet format that you can paste into different documents.
- One **high level study flow diagram** shared as PNG or similar image format, suitable for protocols and slides.
- **Two to three paragraphs of protocol ready text** summarising the question, design family, and overall flow.
- A short **design justification note** that you can adapt when reviewers ask why a certain design was chosen.

What is included

- Structuring of your ideas into a standard PICO or PECO framework where appropriate.
- Choice of a suitable design family and a short justification based on feasibility and bias considerations.
- Creation of a high level flow diagram from source population or sample to final analysis set.
- Text that aligns with common protocol and ethics formats used by universities and teaching hospitals.
- One round of refinement after you review the pack with your guide or internal team.

What is not included

- Detailed sample size calculation or full statistical analysis planning (covered under Statistical Links and related segments).
- Variable level listing, measurement details, or CRF design (addressed in Variables, Endpoints & Case Definitions and CRF/EDC segments).
- Complex multi centre or multi project portfolio architecture beyond a single PhD level project.
- Redrafting of entire thesis chapters; the focus is on protocols, ethics forms, and related foundational documents.

When to Use This Service and What You Should Have Ready

Best time to book

- After you have a reasonably stable topic and aims from the Discovery & Topic Framing section.
- When guides or ethics committees ask explicitly for PICO or PECO framing or a clear study flow diagram.
- When you are struggling to convert broad objectives into a crisp, testable research question.
- Before spending major effort on SOPs, CRF design, or sample size calculations, so that everything aligns with the core blueprint.

Helpful inputs from your side

- Your latest aims and hypotheses, even if they are in rough draft form.
- Any earlier notes on feasibility, resources, and constraints that may affect design choice.
- Examples of typical designs or PICO or PECO questions used in your department, if your guides prefer a specific style.
- Any template or structure your university or ethics committee uses for protocols or synopsis submissions.

FAQs — Protocol Blueprint (PICO/PECO & Flow)

1. Do I always need to use PICO or PECO?

Not every project fits PICO or PECO perfectly, but many clinical, public health, and intervention studies do. Where it is not appropriate, we still use the core idea of stating population, comparison, and outcome in a structured way.

2. Is this service only for clinical studies?

No. The same blueprint logic can be adapted for laboratory, translational,

engineering, management, and basic science projects, with wording tuned to each domain.

3. What if my guide has already suggested a design?

We work within that suggested design, focusing on tightening the question wording, flow, and justification rather than forcing a new design family.

4. Can this help if I am unsure between two designs?

Yes. Part of the work can include a short comparison note of design options, with a recommendation that you can discuss with your guide.

5. Will you decide the entire study for me?

No. You remain the owner of your research. We provide structured options, language, and diagrams to support your decisions and your guide's preferences.

6. Is the flow diagram compatible with common reporting guidelines?

We keep CONSORT, STROBE, and similar reporting standards in mind where relevant, so that your flow can later be adapted to publication figures.

7. How detailed is the flow diagram?

It is high level, focused on phases and populations rather than every micro step. Later sections and SOPs handle operational detail.

8. Can we include multiple primary questions?

Most protocols work best with one primary question and a small number of secondary questions. Where you propose more, we help you prioritise so that the blueprint stays coherent.

9. What if my department uses a fixed protocol template?

We align the wording and blocks to your template as far as possible, so that you can paste content with minimal edits.

10. Does this blueprint lock me in for the whole PhD?

No. It creates a clear starting point. As you learn more or constraints change, the same structure makes it easier to update the design transparently.