FORMAT OF SYNOPSIS

Before starting to work on Dissertation/Article, the FCPS trainee has to send a Synopsis to RTMC and get it approved. The synopsis is a brief outline (about four A-4 size pages or 1000 words is the maximum limit) of your future work.

A synopsis must have the following headings:

**TITLE:** Should reflect the objectives of the study. It must be written after the whole synopsis has been written so that it is a true representative of the plan (i.e. the synopsis).

**INTRODUCTION:** Should contain brief background of the selected topic. It must identify the importance of study, its relevance and applicability of results. It must clearly state the purpose of the study.

**OBJECTIVES:** An objective is an intent of what the researcher wants to do stated in clear measurable terms.”

**OPERATIONAL DEFINITION:** Is the definition of the exposure and outcome variables of interest in context to objective in a particular study and their means of measurement/determination.

Examples:
- Anemia
- Effectiveness
- PPH
- Wound healing
HYPOTHESIS: A hypothesis is a statement showing expected relation b/w 2 variables. A hypothesis is needed in the following study designs:

i. All interventional studies
ii. Cohort
iii. Case control

MATERIAL AND METHODS:
STUDY DESIGN: Mention the name of the appropriate study design.

SETTING: Name and place where the research work is to be conducted.

DURATION OF STUDY: How long will the study take with dates.

SAMPLE SIZE: How many patients will be included. If there are groups how many per group?

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE: Type of sampling technique employed.

SAMPLE SELECTION:
Inclusion criteria: on what bases will patients be inducted in the study.
Exclusion criteria: On what bases will patients be excluded from the study.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE: A detailed account of how the researcher will perform research; how s/he will measure the variable.

It includes: Identification of the study variables
Methods for collection of data
Data collection tools (proforma/questionnaire)

DATA ANALYSIS PROCEDURE: Relevant details naming software to be used, which descriptive statistics and which test of significance if and when required, specifying variables where it will be applied.

REFERENCES:
In Vancouver style (for detail refer to page 132).

DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT:
The researcher must attach, as an annex, the proforma or questionnaire with the help of which he/she intends to collect data. The proforma/questionnaire must match the objectives and must not contain irrelevant sections like inclusion and exclusion criteria etc.