What Is a Research Paper?

Is this a new idea? Offer an explicit statement of how this is examining an issue from a new or unique perspective. Propose the research in the form of a question or statement that requires research to prove.

Format

- **Introduction**. This introduces the research question/potential hypothesis and the major arguments, possibly with citations that support the topic and suggest the need for the further research. The introduction also allows for the declaration of methodology needed to resolve or achieve a solution to a problem.
- **Body**. This is the logically-written, comprehensive research, including the discussion of the research questions/arguments proposed. This will cover key points, experiments or surveys performed, data gathered (charts, graphs, etc.), and rationales. The body describes the problem in detail with explanation of the methodology to resolve the issue. Solutions, alternatives, and results are reported with supporting evidence. Challenges should be clarified, and all information should be readable and understandable to a broad audience of healthcare business professionals. The body also allows for discussion of corrective action or the impact of the execution of a plan. The body of the paper gives opportunity to describe the direction of the issue in the scope of healthcare and what future research could be done to promote positive impacts of the issue while reducing negative impacts.
- **Conclusion**. The conclusion summarizes the research topic, linking the research question/ potential hypothesis to the major arguments and methodology, to the logical conclusions or findings, which are able to create resolution or solve the issue.
- **Appendix** (if necessary). This would include additional materials related to the research, such as graphs and charts not required within the body of the paper.

Mechanics

- There should be no spelling or grammatical errors.

Citations

- All works must be cited within the research paper. The specific citation style is unimportant, just make sure it is consistent.

Bibliography

- Sources should be both reliable and relevant.
- Again, consistency is more important than a specific bibliographic style.