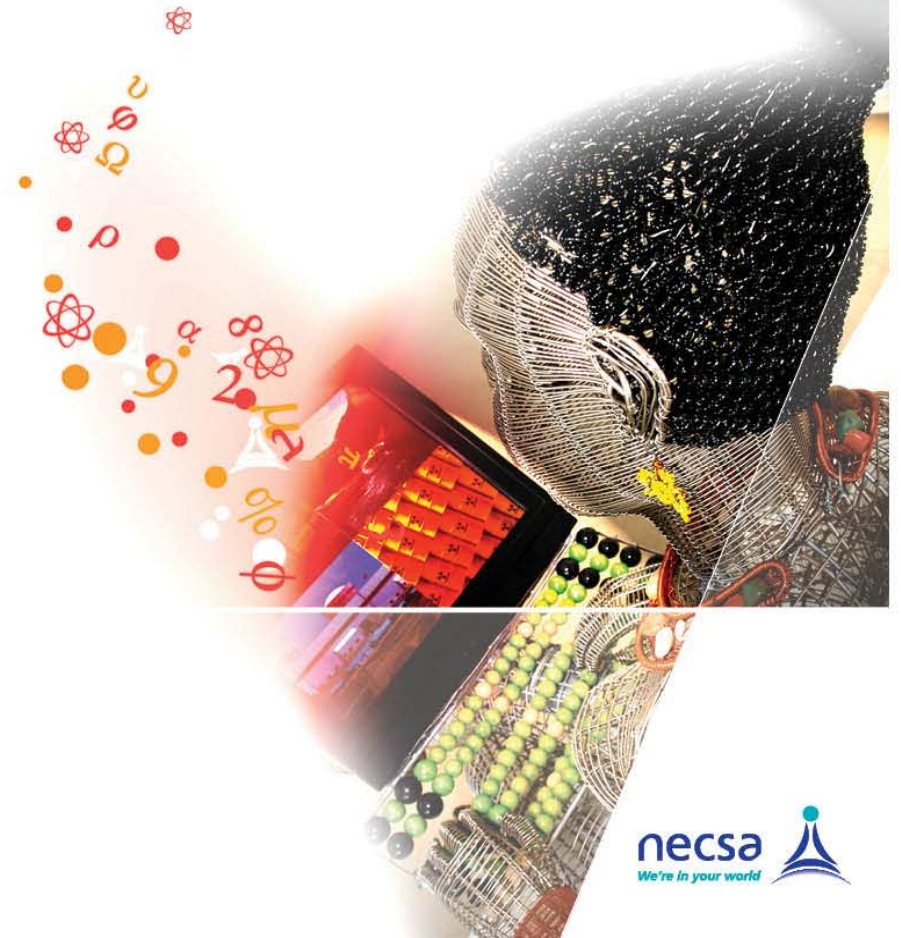


Writing a publication

The Introduction

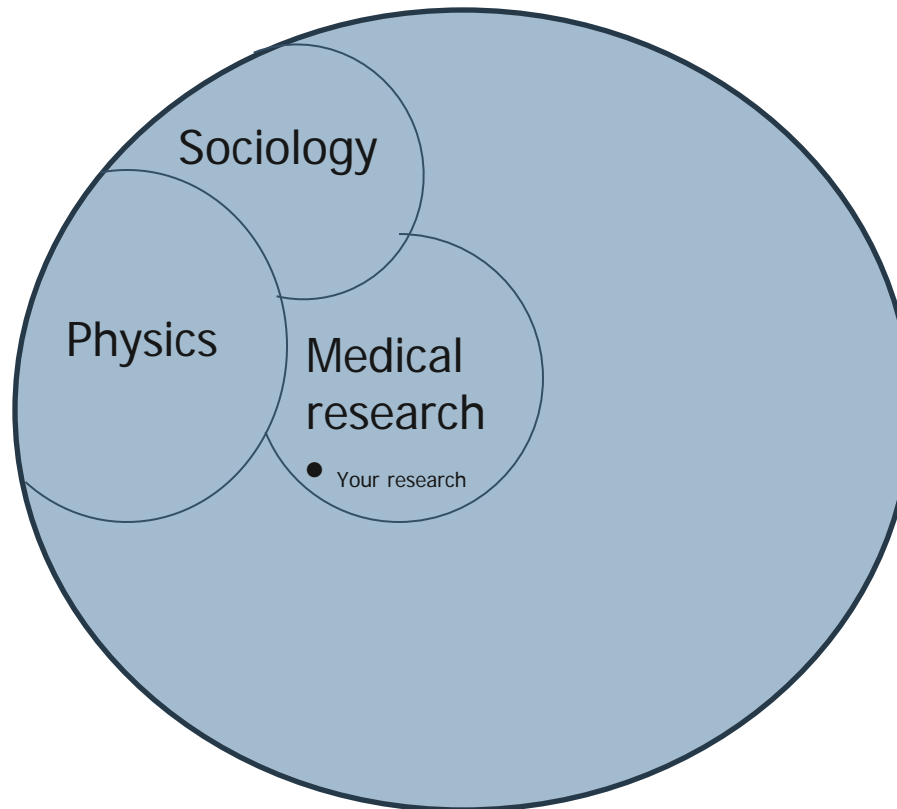
ASSAf workshop
29 & 30 March 2012

Hester E Oosthuizen



The purpose of the Introduction

The purpose of the Introduction



- Contextualise your research
- Indicate the uniqueness of your research

Example

- **They have studied**
- **because they wanted to**
- **in order to**
- **Why is their study unique?**

- **They have studied**
the effects of an aqueous extract of the leaves of *S. senegambica* on plasma marker enzymes and electrolyte profiles, plasma chemistry and haematological indices in salt-loaded rats
- **because they wanted to**
establish the biochemical basis of the use of the leaves in the management of hypertension, as well as the biochemical impact of their administration to hypertensive patients
- **in order to**
assess *S. senegambica* as an antihypertensive drug
- **Why is their study unique?**
The biochemical basis and the biochemical impact is yet to be clearly understood.

Your research article

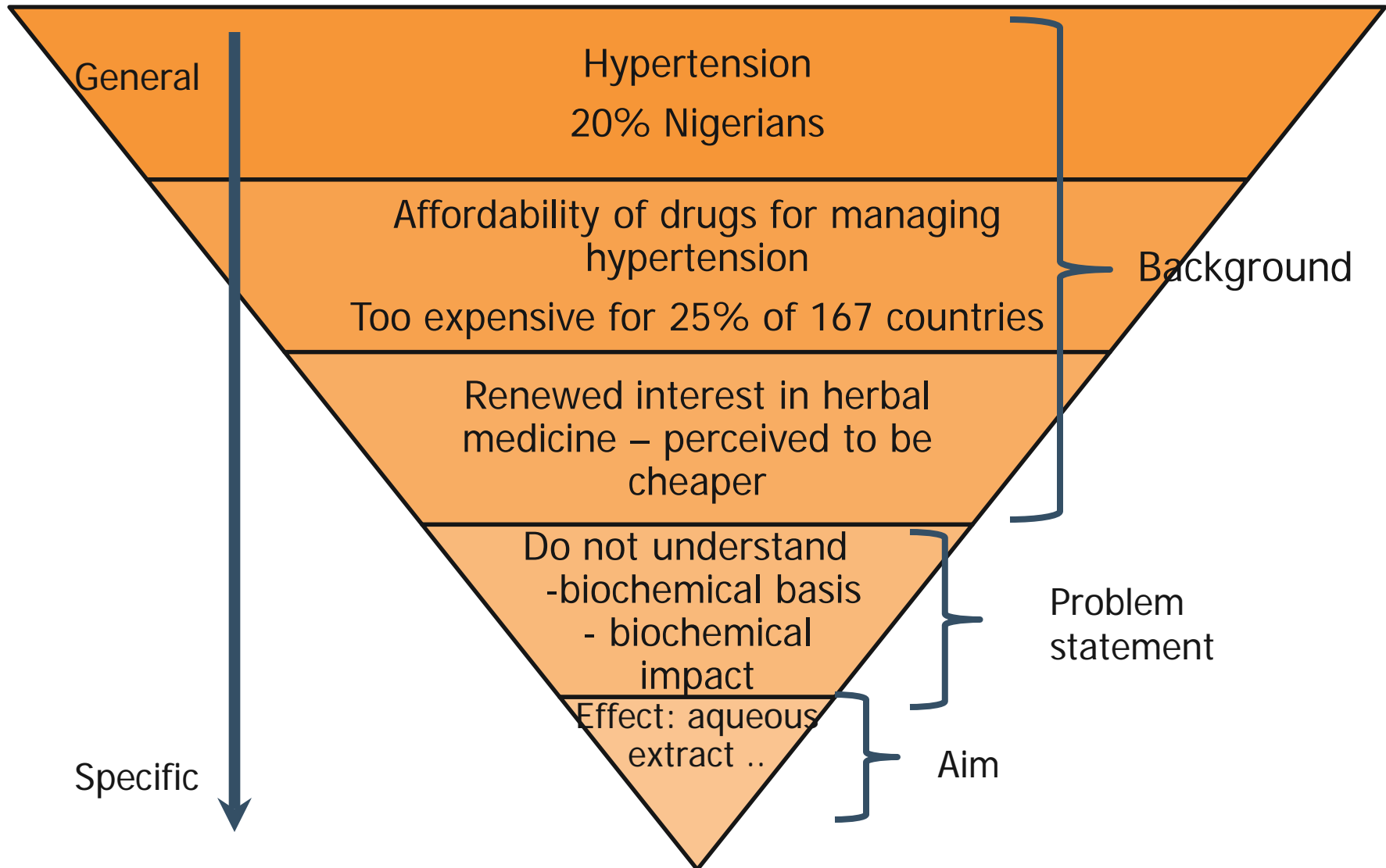
- I have studied
- because I wanted to
- in order to

- Why is your study unique?

Journal specifications

- State the objectives of the work
- Provide adequate background
- Avoid a detailed literature study or a summary of the results

Structure



- **A list, a summary of ideas**

Mortimer also contributes..... Hopkins suggests
Reynolds and Cuttance also point out ... Hargreaves
and Hopkins also endorse ...

- **Create a flowing argument**

Relationships between different bodies of research

Classification

Comparisons

Advantages and disadvantages

Definitions

Logical connectors

- Additive words (also, further, in addition, as well as)
- Amplification words (for example, such as, specifically)
- Contrast and change words (but, yet, however)
- Cause and effect words (since, thus, because, therefore, then)
- Qualifying words (although, if, unless)
- Order words (afterwards, while, subsequently)

Derived from scientific ethics

- Present tense – Established knowledge
(Previously published findings)
- Past tense – New knowledge
(Your own work in this paper)

- Who will read your publication? Determine the common level of expertise of your typical reader.
- Note relationships to other studies.
- State the importance of the research question to the field.
- Write clearly and concisely.
- Simplify the writing so that readers can appreciate the science.