Stage 1: Planning

- **A question**: What is the research question? Do you need to compare something new against a current practice?
- **Peer Review**: Have your peers agreed that the question is valid and worth putting time into?
- **Participants**: Where is the information you require to answer the research question? Can you use that information?
- **Safety and Quality**: What could go wrong? What will you do if something does go wrong? What about safety? How will you get good quality data that you can publish results from?
- **Resources**: How much will it cost to conduct the trial? Have you got the money, time and people to do it?
- **Data Collection**: What data do you need to collect? Do you have the collection equipment/tools you need and are they validated for the intended use?
- **Approval**: Who needs to approve your study so you can officially start? Do you know how to submit an ethics application?