

## Formulating the Answerable Question / Planning the Search Strategy – PICO

<b>Clinical question:</b> State the question you are trying to answer	
<b>P</b>	Describe your <b>patient / population</b> or <b>problem</b> :
<b>I</b>	What <b>intervention</b> or <b>exposure</b> are you considering – treatment, procedure, diagnostic test?
<b>C</b>	Are you trying to <b>compare</b> two options – alternative or default therapy, drug vs. placebo, or gold standard test? <i>Your question does not always need a comparison.</i>
<b>O</b>	What is the <b>outcome</b> you would like to achieve? Relieve or eliminate symptoms? Prevent recurrence? Lower mortality? Correct diagnosis?
<b>Study Design / Research Method:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Randomized controlled trial <input type="checkbox"/> Cohort study <input type="checkbox"/> Case-control study <input type="checkbox"/> Case series / reports <input type="checkbox"/> Qualitative:	<b>Domain:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Therapy <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosis <input type="checkbox"/> Prognosis <input type="checkbox"/> Etiology <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<b>Well-built clinical question:</b> (Among <b>P</b> does <b>I</b> versus <b>C</b> affect <b>O</b> ?)	

## Major concepts to build search strategy

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Name the major concepts in your question (generally, the population, intervention and comparison)</li> <li>• Note any synonyms, spelling variations and abbreviations</li> <li>• Combine synonyms <i>within</i> a concept group with <b>OR</b>. Combine different concepts with <b>AND</b>.</li> <li>• Identify subject headings used in the databases selected to search. Different databases may have different subject headings for the same concept.</li> </ul>	Concept A - Population	<b>A N D</b>	Concept B – Intervention	<b>A N D</b>	Concept C - Comparison	
	<b>OR</b>		<b>OR</b>		<b>OR</b>	
	<b>OR</b>		<b>OR</b>		<b>OR</b>	

## Limit results

### Study design / Methodology?

<input type="checkbox"/> Human only	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
Age group:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infant: ____ - ____ months <input type="checkbox"/> Child: ____ - ____ years <input type="checkbox"/> Adolescent: ____ - ____ years	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult: ____ - ____ years <input type="checkbox"/> Aged: ____ - ____ years <input type="checkbox"/> Other range:
Publication date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Last 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Last 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> Last 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 1980 – present <input type="checkbox"/> 1950 – present <input type="checkbox"/> Other range:
Language of publication:	<input type="checkbox"/> English only	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

