

Formulating the Answerable Question / Planning the Search Strategy – ECLIPSE

Question: State the question you are trying to answer	
E	Expectation – what do you want to find out, improve, evaluate?
C	Client group – for whom is the service provided?
L	Location – where is the service?
I	Impact – with what result, outcome? measure to determine success?
P	Professionals – who is involved in providing the service?
S	Service – type of service
Well-built answerable question:	

Major concepts to build search strategy

- Name the major concepts in your question (generally, the setting, perspective, intervention and comparison).
- Note any synonyms, spelling variations and abbreviations.
- Identify text words or phrases found in relevant citations, if applicable.
- Identify subject headings or controlled vocabulary used in the databases selected to search. Different databases may have different subject headings for the same concept.
- Combine terms *within* a concept group with **OR**. Combine different concepts with **AND**.

Concept 1 Expectation		Concept 2 Client group		Concept 3 Location		Concept 4 Professionals		Concept 5 Service
OR		OR		OR		OR		OR
	A N D		A N D		A N D		A N D	
OR		OR		OR		OR		OR

- Keep in mind that building a search strategy is an *iterative* process. As searching progresses, revise as needed.