PICOS Worksheet and Search Strategy

1. Define your question using PICOS by identifying: Patient Population or Problem, Intervention (treatment/test), Comparison (group or treatment), Outcomes, and Setting.

    Your question should be used to help establish your search strategy.

    Patient/Problem   _____

    Intervention   _____

    Comparison   _____

    Outcome   _____

    Setting   _____

Write out your question:

_____

_____

2. Type of question/problem: Circle one: Therapy/Prevention, Diagnosis, Etiology, Prognosis

3. Type of study (Publication Type) to include in the search: Check all that apply:

☐ Meta-Analysis   ☐ Systematic Review   ☐ Randomized Controlled Trial
☐ Cohort Study   ☐ Case Control Study   ☐ Case series or Case Report
☐ Animal Research   ☐ In Vitro/Lab Research   ☐ Editorials, Letters, Opinions

4. List main topics and alternate terms from your PICOS question that can be used for your search

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List your inclusion criteria –gender, age, year of publication, language

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_____

List irrelevant terms that you may want to exclude in your search

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5. List where you plan to search, i.e., CINAHL, MEDLINE, PubMed, PyscINFO, Dissertations/Thesis

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