

Search Strategy Planner

1. Identify your research question or statement.

What do you want to find out? If applicable, use the PICO model (Patient/Problem, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome). Underline the main keywords or phrases.

2. Identify your key concepts

Note any synonyms or related terms for each of your key concepts.

Key Concept		Alternate Keyword 1		Alternate Keyword 2
(_____)	OR	_____	OR	_____)
AND				
(_____)	OR	_____	OR	_____)
AND				
(_____)	OR	_____	OR	_____)
AND				
(_____)	OR	_____	OR	_____)

3. List limits (i.e., inclusion criteria): gender, age, publication dates, language, subsets

4. List irrelevant terms (i.e., exclusion criteria) that you may want to exclude from your search

5. List resources where you plan to search (e.g., PubMed/Medline, CINAHL)