



“Information You Can Trust”

Alverno College Library

### PICO Worksheet

<http://www.alverno.edu/library/researchhelp/courseguideswikis/#nursing>

**Clinical Question:** Write your topic as a focused question:

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**PICO Concepts:** Use this chart to identify important concepts associated with your topic.

PICO Concepts	Search Terms (include synonyms, alternate spellings, acronyms, abbreviations...)
<b>P (Patient population)</b> What are the patient’s most important characteristics?	
<b>P (Problem)</b> What is the primary problem?	
<b>I (Intervention)</b> What main intervention are you considering?	
<b>C (Comparison)</b> What will the main intervention be compared to?	
<b>O (Outcome)</b> What are you trying to accomplish?	

**Clinical Category:**

- Therapy/Intervention       Etiology/Harm       Meaning
- Diagnosis                       Prognosis                       Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Search Strategy:**

- Use the terms from the chart to structure a database search statement. Use the appropriate “Boolean” connector (**AND, OR, NOT**) and consider using subject headings for improved results.
  
- Which databases will you search? What types of studies will you look for?

**Evaluate Your Results:** Are you happy with your results? If not, how can you improve them?