

The Well-Built, Patient-Oriented Clinical Question

Question Components	Your Question
<p>P – Patient or Population</p> <p>Describe the most important characteristics of the patient. (e.g., age, disease/condition, gender)</p>	
<p>I – Intervention; Prognostic Factor; Exposure</p> <p>Describe the main intervention. (e.g., drug or other treatment, diagnostic/screening test)</p>	
<p>C – Comparison (if appropriate)</p> <p>Describe the main alternative being considered. (e.g., placebo, standard therapy, no treatment, the gold standard)</p>	
<p>O – Outcome</p> <p>Describe what you're trying to accomplish, measure, improve, affect. (e.g., reduced mortality or morbidity, improved memory, accurate and timely diagnosis)</p>	
<p>The well-built clinical question:</p> 	

Type of Question	Ideal Type of Study
<input type="checkbox"/> Therapy	RCT
<input type="checkbox"/> Prevention	RCT > Cohort Study > Case Control
<input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosis	Prospective, blind controlled trial comparison to gold standard
<input type="checkbox"/> Prognosis	Cohort Study > Case Control > Case Series/Case Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Etiology/Harm	RCT > Cohort Study > Case Control
<input type="checkbox"/> Cost analysis	economic analysis
<p>Note: Meta-analyses and systematic reviews, when available, often provide the best answers to clinical questions.</p>	

Search Strategy Development

	Primary search term	Synonym 1	Synonym 2
P			
I			
C			
O			