

CLINICAL QUERY WORKSHEET

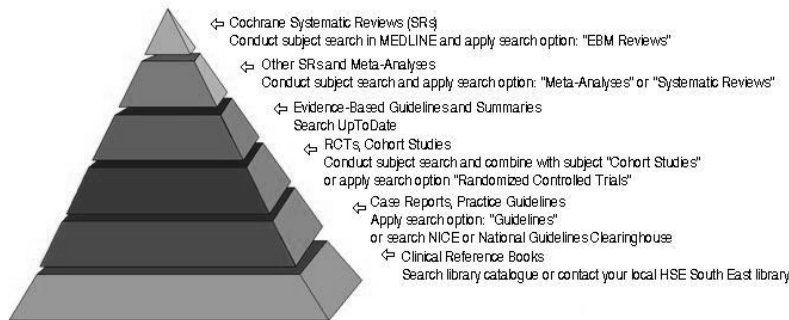
ENTER KEYWORDS UNDER THE FOLLOWING HEADINGS ('PICO')		
Population/Problem	<i>"Who are the relevant people in relation to the clinical problem that you have in mind?"</i>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Intervention/Indicator	<i>"What is the treatment strategy, exposure or test that you want to find out about in relation to the clinical problem? This might be:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>a procedure, such as a drug treatment, surgery or diet ... intervention</i> ▪ <i>exposure to an environmental hazard, a physical feature such as being overweight or a factor that might influence a health outcome ... indicator</i> ▪ <i>a diagnostic test, such as a blood test or brain scan ... index test</i> 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Comparator/Control	<i>"An alternative or control strategy, exposure or test."</i>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Outcome	<i>"What are you or the patient most concerned about happening, or preventing happening?"</i>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

IS YOUR QUESTION SPECIFIC TO ANY OF THE CATEGORIES BELOW?

GENDER	AGE GROUP	DATE OF PUBLICATION
Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Infant (0 – 23 months) <input type="checkbox"/> Child (2 – 12 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Adolescent (13 – 18 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Adult (19 – 65 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Aged (> 65 years) <input type="checkbox"/>	Current year only <input type="checkbox"/> 0 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> > 5 years <input type="checkbox"/>

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SAMPLE QUESTION CATEGORIES TO CONSIDER		
THERAPY/INTERVENTION	<i>Interventions can include a wide range of activities from drug treatments or other clinical therapies to lifestyle changes such as diet or exercise. "What is the effect of ... on ...?"</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Therapy/Intervention
AETIOLOGY/RISK FACTORS	<i>"What is the cause of the problem?" "Are ... who have ... at greater risk of ... in comparison to ...?"</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Aetiology/Risk Factors
DIAGNOSIS	<i>"How accurate is ... diagnostic test in comparison with other available tests?"</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosis
PROGNOSIS/PREDICTION	<i>"Does the use of ... reduce the future risk of ...?"</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prognosis/Prediction
FREQUENCY/RATE	<i>"What % of ... population have ...?"</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Frequency/Rate
PHENOMENA	<i>"How do ... diagnosed with ... perceive ...?"</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Phenomena



The pyramid above is a graphic representation of how to search efficiently for best evidence.

Begin your search at the top of the pyramid with systematic reviews (SRs) from the Cochrane Library. Cochrane SRs and Other SRs can be found in MEDLINE. Conduct your subject search as normal and at the end apply the following search options (for more information, see **Step 8: Search Options of YOUR 10-STEP GUIDE TO MEDLINE**):

- "EBM Reviews" to locate SRs from the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews relevant to your subject search
- "Publication Type = Meta-Analyses" to locate meta-analyses
- "Subject Subset = Systematic Reviews" to locate all systematic reviews
- "Review Articles" to locate both SRs and meta-analyses relevant to your subject

UpToDate is an excellent source of evidence-based guidelines and summaries. Go to www.hselibrary.ie/southeast and click on **UpToDate**.

To locate RCTs, conduct a subject search as normal and at the end apply the search option "**Publication Type = Randomized Controlled Trial**" or to locate guidelines, apply the search option "**Publication Type = Guideline**" (see **Step 8: Search Options of YOUR 10-STEP GUIDE TO MEDLINE**). To locate cohort studies, conduct your subject search and at the end combine your results with the exploded subject "Cohort Studies" (see **Step 6: Combine Your Searches of YOUR 10-STEP GUIDE TO MEDLINE**).

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) in Britain and the National Guidelines Clearinghouse in the United States are also excellent sources of clinical guidelines. Go to www.hselibrary.ie/southeast and click on **National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence** or **National Guidelines Clearinghouse**.

Contact the library to source clinical textbooks relevant to your subject or go to www.hselibrary.ie/southeast and click on the **Catalogue** resource link which appears centre screen.

This worksheet is based on information in Glaziou, P. et al., *Evidence-Based Practice Workbook*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2007.

See www.cebm.net for more information, or the toolkit below to access resources to assist with each step of the EBM process.



Asking Focused Questions
 "... the translation of uncertainty into an answerable question."



Finding the Evidence
 "... systematic retrieval of the best evidence available."



Critical Appraisal
 "... critical appraisal of evidence for validity, clinical relevance and applicability."



Making a Decision
 "... the application of results in practice."



Evaluating Performance
 "... audit and feedback of clinical practice to improve performance."