PICO Worksheet and Search Strategy

Define your question using PICO: Population, Intervention, Comparison, and Outcome.

Population:_____________________________________________________________________
Intervention:___________________________________________________________________
Comparison:___________________________________________________________________
Outcome:______________________________________________________________________

Write out your question:____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

List the main topics and terms from your question that you can use to search:____________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Select any limit that may pertain to your search:
☐ Age ☐ Language ☐ Year of publication ☐ Other____________________________

Choose the types of studies/publications that you want to include in your search:
☐ Systematic Review or Meta-Analysis
☐ Clinical Practice Guidelines
☐ Randomized Control Trials
☐ Other Research Studies, including_______________________________________________
☐ Other Publications, including___________________________________________________

Select the resources you want to search:

Free Resources:
☐ PubMed
☐ USPSTF
☐ Guide to Community Preventive Services
☐ NACCHO – Model Practices Database
☐ National Guidelines Clearinghouse
☐ phPartners
☐ CDC
☐ AHRQ

Subscription Based Resources:
☐ CINAHL
☐ Cochrane Library
☐ Joanna Briggs Institute
☐ Nursing Reference Center
☐ ACP Journal Club
☐ Dynamed

What information did you find to help answer your question?_________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

This form is adapted from Syrene A. Miller, PICO Worksheet and Search Strategy, National Center for Dental Hygiene Research.