Learning Objectives:

A. Select an appropriate source to search for evidence to best answer their PICO questions
B. Utilize information sources effectively to find best available evidence for a given PICO question

Searching for the Evidence - Scenario #1

You see a 68 year old male who comes in for a routine physical examination. He is concerned about the calcium channel blocker that you prescribed for his hypertension. He read online that calcium channel blockers can cause cancer. What do you tell him?

Find the PICO elements for the above patient scenario

Patient

Intervention

Comparison

Outcome

Formulate the PICO question

What kind of question is this (therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, etiology)?

What is the best study design to answer this type of question?
Find evidence to answer your question using PubMed Clinical Queries. Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Find evidence to answer your question using THREE of the following resources (circle your selections). Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Cochrane Library
Google Scholar
Essential Evidence Plus
DynaMed (Plus)
UpToDate
RxTx

Which was the source of the BEST evidence?

Which source was the FASTEST to search?
Searching for the Evidence - Scenario #2

A 25 year old mother with no history of allergies has an infant with colic. She is breastfeeding and she read that if she restricts herself to a hypoallergenic diet her baby would have less colic. Should you recommend that diet to her?

Find the PICO elements for the above patient scenario

- **Patient**
- **Intervention**
- **Comparison**
- **Outcome**

Formulate the PICO question

What kind of question is this (therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, etiology)?

What is the best study design to answer this type of question?

Find evidence to answer your question using THREE of the following resources (circle your selections). Make observations on what you find. Available at [http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools](http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools)

- [PubMed Clinical Queries](http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools)
- Cochrane Library
- Google Scholar
- Essential Evidence Plus
- DynaMed
- UpToDate
- RxTx

Which was the source of the BEST evidence?

Which source was the FASTEST to search?
Searching for the Evidence - Scenario #3

You are discharging a 75 year old woman from the ward when her son asks you if his mother should stop taking her proton pump inhibitor for her peptic ulcer. He read a story in the newspaper recently about the link between proton pump inhibitors and osteoporosis. What is your course of action?

Find the PICO elements for the above patient scenario

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Formulate the PICO question

What kind of question is this (therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, etiology)?

What is the best study design to answer this type of question?
Find evidence to answer your question using PubMed Clinical Queries. Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Find evidence to answer your question using THREE of the following resources (circle your selections). Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Which was the source of the BEST evidence?

Which source was the FASTEST to search?
Searching for the Evidence - Scenario #4

Your 28 year old patient who is 20 weeks pregnant presents for a follow-up visit. Her 18 week ultrasound showed a shortened cervix. She has no history of preterm birth. Should you consider cerclage (cervical stitch)?

Find the PICO elements for the above patient scenario

Patient

Intervention

Comparison

Outcome

Formulate the PICO question

What kind of question is this (therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, etiology)?

What is the best study design to answer this type of question?
Find evidence to answer your question using PubMed Clinical Queries. Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Find evidence to answer your question using THREE of the following resources (circle your selections). Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Which was the source of the BEST evidence?

Which source was the FASTEST to search?
Searching for the Evidence - Scenario #5

You see a 55 year old male with chronic constipation. It has been investigated, and it is only functional. He has tried drinking more water, getting exercise and eating more fiber, but this approach has not helped much. Would polyethylene glycol (PEG) be a good option for treating this problem?

Background question: What is the functional chronic constipation?

Find the PICO elements for the above patient scenario

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Formulate the PICO question

What kind of question is this (therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, etiology)?

What is the best study design to answer this type of question?
Find evidence to answer your question using PubMed Clinical Queries. Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

 PubMed Clinical Queries

 Find evidence to answer your question using THREE of the following resources (circle your selections). Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

 Cochrane Library
 Google Scholar
 Essential Evidence Plus
 DynaMed
 UpToDate
 RxTx

 Which was the source of the BEST evidence?

 Which source was the FASTEST to search?
Searching for the Evidence - Scenario #6

You see a 35 year old male with a cold sore. He gets them often and would like something for this problem. He has already tried the topical cream, and it does not help. Is an antiviral like valacyclovir an appropriate treatment?

Find the PICO elements for the above patient scenario

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Formulate the PICO question

What kind of question is this (therapy, diagnosis, prognosis, etiology)?

What is the best study design to answer this type of question?
Find evidence to answer your question using PubMed Clinical Queries. Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Which was the source of the BEST evidence?

Which source was the FASTEST to search?

Find evidence to answer your question using THREE of the following resources (circle your selections). Make observations on what you find. Available at http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/UGME/POCtools

Cochrane Library
Google Scholar
Essential Evidence Plus
DynaMed
UpToDate
RxTx
**Important things to remember:**

a) **You need to understand the grading system for each clinical decision making tools if available.**

b) **Grading systems in various clinical decision making tools are different.**
   - UpToDate
   - EE+
   - Dynamed
     [http://www.dynamed.com/home/editorial/levels-of-evidence](http://www.dynamed.com/home/editorial/levels-of-evidence)

*Last modified: November 28, 2019*