PICO Worksheet and Search Strategy

PICO and PICo mnemonic should be used to generate a clear and meaningful title and question.

1. Define your question using PICO/PICo by identifying:
   - Patient/Problem
   - Intervention/Phenomena of interest
   - Comparison/ Context
   - Outcome

2. Type of question/problem, Circle one:
   - Therapy
   - Prevention
   - Diagnosis
   - Etiology
   - Prognosis
   - Meaning
   - Synthesis

3. Evidence-based types of studies to include in your search (check all that apply):
   **II. Quantitative**
   - Systematic Review
   - Meta-analysis
   - Practice Guidelines
   - Randomized Controlled Trial
   - Case-control study
   - Cohort Study

   **III. Qualitative**
   - Meta- synthesis
   - Generalizable conceptual studies
   - Descriptive studies
   - Case study

Write out your **Research or Clinical question** (your question should be used to help establish your search strategy):

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________________________________________________________________________________________
4. List main topics and alternate terms from your PICO question that can be used for your search

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5. List your inclusion criteria - gender, age, year of publication, language:

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6. List your exclusion criteria, irrelevant terms that you may want to exclude in your search:

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7. List where you plan to search, i.e. CINAHL, Google Scholar, Medline, PsycINFO (EBSCOHost Platform), PubMed, Scopus, Other.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Checklist for Search Strategy</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Did the strategy address all the essential elements of the Question?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>For the Patient /Problem, were appropriate search terms used?</td>
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<tr>
<td>For the Intervention, were appropriate search terms used?</td>
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<td>If appropriate, were the right subheadings applied?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Were concepts combined correctly? (Use of Boolean, Truncation, Adjacency, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Were appropriate limits, if any applied?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Did the strategy include an appropriate limit for study design or appropriate Clinical Query filter for type of question?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Were relevant articles found within the first two pages of results?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Was the search strategy effective and efficient? Do the results address the clinical question?</td>
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