

## Template for Asking PICOT Questions

### INTERVENTION

In \_\_\_\_\_ (P), how does \_\_\_\_\_ (I) compared to \_\_\_\_\_ (C) affect \_\_\_\_\_ (O) within \_\_\_\_\_ (T)?

### THERAPY

In \_\_\_\_\_ (P), what is the effect of \_\_\_\_\_ (I) compared to \_\_\_\_\_ (C) on \_\_\_\_\_ (O) within \_\_\_\_\_ (T)?

### PROGNOSIS/PREDICTION

In \_\_\_\_\_ (P), how does \_\_\_\_\_ (I) compared to \_\_\_\_\_ (C) influence \_\_\_\_\_ (O) over \_\_\_\_\_ (T)?

### DIAGNOSIS OR DIAGNOSTIC TEST

In \_\_\_\_\_ (P) are/is \_\_\_\_\_ (I) compared with \_\_\_\_\_ (C) more accurate in diagnosing \_\_\_\_\_ (O)?

### ETIOLOGY

Are \_\_\_\_\_ (P), who have \_\_\_\_\_ (I) compared with those without \_\_\_\_\_ (C) at \_\_\_\_\_ risk for/of \_\_\_\_\_ (O) over \_\_\_\_\_ (T)?

### MEANING

How do \_\_\_\_\_ (P) with \_\_\_\_\_ (I) perceive \_\_\_\_\_ (O) during \_\_\_\_\_ (T)?

## Short Definitions of Different Types of Questions

**Intervention/Therapy:** Questions addressing the treatment of an illness or disability.

**Etiology:** Questions addressing the causes or origins of disease (i.e., factors that produce or predispose toward a certain disease or disorder).

**Diagnosis:** Questions addressing the act or process of identifying or determining the nature and cause of a disease or injury through evaluation.

**Prognosis/Prediction:** Questions addressing the prediction of the course of a disease.

**Meaning:** Questions addressing how one experiences a phenomenon.

### Sample Questions:

**Intervention:** In African-American female adolescents with hepatitis B (P), how does acetaminophen (I) compared to ibuprofen (C) affect liver function (O)?

**Therapy:** In children with spastic cerebral palsy (P), what is the effect of splinting and casting(I) compared to constraint- induced therapy (C) on two-handed skill development (O)?

#### **Prognosis/Prediction:**

**1)** For patients 65 years and older (P), how does the use of an influenza vaccine (I) compared to not received the vaccine (C) influence the risk of developing pneumonia (O) during flu season (T)?

**2)** In patients who have experienced an acute myocardial infarction (P), how does being a smoker (I) compared to a non-smoker (C) influence death and infarction rates (O) during the first 5 years after the myocardial infarction (T)?

**Diagnosis:** In middle-aged males with suspected myocardial infarction (P), are serial 12-lead ECGs (I) compared to one initial 12-lead ECG (C) more accurate in diagnosing an acute myocardial infarction (O)?

**Etiology:** Are 30- to 50-year-old women (P) who have high blood pressure (I) compared with those without high blood pressure (C) at increased risk for an acute myocardial infarction (O) during the first year after hysterectomy (T)?

**Meaning:** How do young males (P) with a diagnosis of below the waist paralysis (I) perceive their interactions with their romantic significant others (O) during the first year after their diagnosis (T)?