

Research Skills: PICO

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What is PICO?

P = Population

P I C O

I = Intervention

C = Comparison

O = Outcome

P i c o

P = Identify

- Population w/ (health) condition of interest
- Participants
- Principal person or thing
- Problem
- Predicament

Straus, 2010, Evidence-based medicine; how to practice and teach it, (p. 15 - 18)

Melnyk, 2011, Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice, (p. 31)

P | C O

I = Identify

Intervention, therapy, treatment, tests

OR

- Issue of interest
 - Diagnoses - select, interpret
 - Risk, prevention – screen, reduce
 - Etiology – cause, risk factors
 - Exposure
 - Prognosis
-

P I C o

C = Identify

Comparison

- Another intervention
 - True control placebo
 - Standard operation
 - Standard of care
-

P I C O

O = Identify
Outcome

- Measurement of comparisons
-

Formulating a PICO question: Begin by asking two kinds of questions

Background Question

Asks about general topical elements:

1. who, what, where, when, why, how and a verb.
1. lays foundation for PICO.

Foreground Question

Asks about research elements:

1. what is population, intervention, comparison, outcome
2. formulates research question and search strategy

PICO Question | Healthcare

Background | 5 Ws

What can prevent falls in elderly?

Foreground | PICO

In *elderly at risk of falls* (P), how does *tai chi* (I) compared to *risk assessment* (C) affect *fall prevention/reduction* (O)?

PICO Question | Healthcare

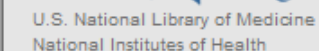
Foreground

In *elderly at risk of falls* (P), how does *tai chi* (I) compared to *risk assessment* (C) affect *fall prevention/reduction* (O)?

Searches in PubMed

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 [Modelling the population-level impact of tai-chi on falls and fall-related injury among community-dwelling older people.](#)

1. Day L, Finch CF, Harrison JE, Hoareau E, Segal L, Ullah S. *Inj Prev*. 2010 Oct;16(5):321-6. Epub 2010 Jul 19. PMID: 20643871 [PubMed - in process]
[Related citations](#)

2 [Comparison of telecommunication, community, and home-based Tai Chi exercise programs on compliance and effectiveness in elders at risk for falls](#)

- Wu G, Keyes L, Callas P, Ren X, Bookchin B.
Arch Phys Med Rehabil. 2010 Jun;91(6):849-56.
PMID: 20510973 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
[Related citations](#)

■ An integrative review of Tai Chi research: an alternative form of physical activity to improve balance and prevent falls in older adults

3. Wooton AC.
Orthop Nurs. 2010 Mar-Apr;29(2):108-16; quiz 117-8. Review.
PMID: 20335770 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
[Related citations](#)

Is Tai Chi Chuan effective in improving lower limb response time to prevent backward falls in the elderly?

4. Wong AM, Pei YC, Lan C, Huang SC, Lin YC, Chou SW. Age (Dordr). 2009 Jun;31(2):163-70. Epub 2009 May 5. PMID: 19415525 [PubMed] [Free PMC Article](#)
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 Lack of effect of Tai Chi Chuan in preventing falls in elderly people living at home: a randomized clinical trial.

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intense Tai Chi

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Is Tai Chi Chuan a limb response?

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into a commu

The effect of T
among elder

PICO Question | Healthcare

Foreground

In *older people at risk for disability*(P), how does *sarcopenia* (I) compared to *healthy muscle function*(C) affect *incident disability*(O)?

Searches in PubMed

SS1 sarcopenia disability

SS2 sarcopenia [ti] disability [ti]

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www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=sarcopenia+disability

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[Frequency of sarcopenia and associated factors among hospitalized elderly patients.](#)

1.

Martinez BP, Batista AK, Gomes IB, Olivieri FM, Camelier FW, Camelier AA.
BMC Musculoskelet Disord. 2015 May 6;16:108. doi: 10.1186/s12891-015-0570-x.
PMID: 25943762 **Free PMC Article**
[Related citations](#)

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[Muscle loss and obesity: the health implications of sarcopenia and sarcopenic obesity.](#)

2.

Wannamethee SG, Atkins JL.
Proc Nutr Soc. 2015 Apr 27:1-8. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 25913270
[Related citations](#)

☐

[Oxandrolone Augmentation of Resistance Training in Older Women: A Randomized Trial.](#)

3.

Mavros Y, O'Neill E, Connerty M, Bean JF, Broe K, Kiel DP, MacLean D, Taylor A, Fielding RA, Flatarone Singh MA.
Med Sci Sports Exerc. 2015 Apr 18. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 25899102
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[Osteoporosis and sarcopenia in older age.](#)

4.

Edwards MH, Dennison EM, Aihie Sayer A, Fielding R, Cooper C.
Bone. 2015 Apr 14. pii: S8756-3282(15)00129-5. doi: 10.1016/j.bone.2015.04.016. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 25886902
[Related citations](#)

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[Sarcopenia in post-menopausal women: Is there any role for vitamin D?](#)

5.

Anagnostis P, Dimopoulou C, Karras S, Lambrinoudaki I, Goulis DG.
Maturitas. 2015 Mar 27. pii: S0378-5122(15)00604-0. doi: 10.1016/j.maturitas.2015.03.014. [Epub ahead of print]
Review.
PMID: 25882761
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[Weaker Seniors Exhibit Motor Cortex Hypoexcitability and Impairments in Voluntary Activation.](#)

6.

Clark BC, Taylor JL, Hong SL, Law TD, Russ DW.
J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2015 Apr 1. pii: glw030. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 25834195
[Related citations](#)

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Try the new Display Settings option - Sort by Relevance

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rehabilitation nutrition for sarcopenia with disability

PMC Images search for sarcopenia disability









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Low relative skeletal muscle mass (sarcopenia) in older persons is asso [J Am Geriatr Soc. 2002]

Rehabilitation nutrition for sarcopenia with disability: a [J Cachexia Sarcopenia Muscle. ...]

Sarcopenia according to the european working group on sarcopenia [J Nutr Health Aging. 2014]

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PICO Question | Across Disciplines

Background | 5 Ws

Foreground | PICO

Who, What
Problem

Population,

How, Why

Intervention, Cause

Straus, 2010, Evidence-based medicine; how to practice and teach it, (p. 15)

Melnyk, 2011, Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice, (p. 31)

My experience...

- Master Thesis
- PhD application process
 - Research Proposal Plan
- Publications
- Specificity
- Goal/Research oriented
- But, there is a process...!

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References

Ellen Welty
Sheila Hofstetter

LibGuide
<http://libguides.asu.edu/PICO>