PICOT Worksheet – Week 3

**Part 1: PICOT Question**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Your Instructor’s Name:**

**Purpose**: To identify a problem or concern that nursing can change and develop a PICOT question to guide the change project.

**Directions**: Use the form below to complete the Week 3 Assignment PICOT Evidence Worksheet. This includes filling in the table with information about your research question and your PICOT elements and the second part is filling in the Evidence Worksheet.

**Step 1**: Select the key PICO terms for searching the evidence. Clearly define your PICOT question. List each element P (problem, population, or problem), I (intervention), C (Comparison with other treatment/current practice), and O (Desired outcome), T (Time Frame). Is the potential solution something for which you (as nurse or student) can find a solution through evidence research? Look in your book for guidelines to developing your PICOT question and also read the required articles.

**Step 2**: Identify the problem. What have you noticed in your work or school environment that isn’t achieving the desired patient or learning outcomes? What needs to change in nursing, what can you change with the support of evidence in the literature? Describe the problem or practice issue that you want to research. What is your practice area; clinical, education, or administration? (This is NOT where you will list your PICOT question)

**Step 3**: How was the practice issues identified? How did you come to know this was a problem in your clinical practice? Review the listed concerns and check all that apply.

**Step 4**: What evidence must be gathered? What sources of reliable information will be helpful for your particular question?

**Step 5**: What terms will you use in order to make sure that your search is wide enough to obtain required information but narrow enough to keep it focused? How will you narrow your search if needed?

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| **PICOT Question** | | | |
| **What is the PICOT question?**  **Define each element of the question below:**  **P**- (Patient, population, or problem):  **I**- (Intervention):  **C**- (Comparison with other treatment/current practice):  **O**- (Desired outcome):  **T**- (Time Frame): | | | |
| **What is the practice issue/problem? What is the scope of the issue? What is the need for change?** | | | |
| **What is the practice area?**  \_\_\_ Clinical  \_\_\_ Education | | | \_\_\_ Administration  \_\_\_ Other |
| **How was the practice issue identified?** (check all that apply)  \_\_\_ Safety/risk management concerns  \_\_\_ Unsatisfactory patient outcomes  \_\_\_ Wide variations in practice  \_\_\_ Significant financial concerns | | \_\_\_ Difference between hospital and community practice  \_\_\_ Clinical practice issue is a concern  \_\_\_ Procedure or process is a time waster  \_\_\_ Clinical practice issue has no scientific base  \_\_\_ Other: | |
| **What evidence must be gathered?** (check all that apply) | | | |
| \_\_\_ Literature search  \_\_\_ Guidelines  \_\_\_ Expert Opinion  \_\_\_ Patient Preferences | \_\_\_ Clinical Expertise  \_\_\_ Financial Analysis  \_\_\_ Standards (Regulatory, professional, community)  \_\_\_ Other | | |
| **Search terms/How to narrow the search?** | | | |