Hi students, this is Dr. Susan Thomas, course leader for NR439. And I would like to welcome you to a short tutorial to assist you in completing your week three problem/PICOT/Evidence Search (PPE) worksheet assignment.

The purpose for completing the PPE is for you to identify an independent nursing problem and apply a process worksheet to help you develop a clinical question and search for evidence using a credible online database. According to AACN, collaborative identification and interpretation of practice problems is a requirement of professional nursing practice. Locating and summarizing literature is necessary for evidence based nursing practice as outlined in both AACN and QSEN.

The assignment directions and rubric are located under the week three module. It is essential that you read over each of the directions as these have key instructions and helpful hints to complete the required worksheet. I encourage you to read the directions first, and then download your required worksheet located here, read over the practice based scenario, and your grading rubric which is located beneath the practice based scenario. Be sure again that you are using your grading rubric to complete the required worksheet. Your instructor will use the grading rubric to evaluate each of the criteria you will be completing. Please be sure that you complete the assignment using that first column to be sure you capture all available points for that criteria.

Before you begin completing the worksheet, you must be sure that you read over the Assignment Practice Scenario. This scenario mimics something that could be experienced in clinical nursing practice. It includes you being assigned to a nursing evidence based committee and as a committee member you are required to complete the PPE worksheet. After reading the assignment practice scenario, you are to select one of the key nursing independent practice issues from this list of familiar quality and safety clinical problems. Again, you are to choose only one problem area.

There are several helpful links located in your directions for this assignment. The PPE worksheet is required and must be complete the PPE worksheet that is available here. You can download from this link. Please make sure that you use the current worksheet for the session you are taking the course. You also have some helpful sources from the library located here. You also have your NR439 Guide for Writing PICOT Questions and Examples that you need to use to help you be successful in writing a PICOT question. If you are interested in practicing writing PICOT questions, please be sure that you visit your week 2 lesson area and scroll down to the practice case studies designed to assist with practicing, creating, and writing PICOT formatted clinical questions.

Here is an example of a completed PPE worksheet. The following is an example only. You will notice that I have a chosen a problem that is not one of the practice problems as this is an illustration only. You must use your grading rubric to ensure you are meeting all elements of the required assignment. I have chosen a clinical nursing problem of smoking and you will notice that I have done some preliminary search of evidence on this problem. In doing so, I came across this study by Panpakdee indicating a nursing model as an intervention that demonstrated an impact on reducing patient smoking. I have summarized why I believe this problem is important and supported with the evidence I located and I summarized why I chose the problem. The next criteria is the clinical nursing PICOT question and I used the NR 439 Guide for Writing PICOT Questions and Examples to create my question. From that question, you can copy and paste the PICOT elements into the define PICOT elements criteria. For the evidence retrieval process and summary, you need to complete the list of criteria. It includes using only the CCN library, and I located nursing evidence related to my problem and I explained why I believe the evidence is nursing related and why I chose the evidence. I also provided a complete APA reference which includes the authors, the year, the title of the evidence and the name of the resource that it came from. The study was completed within the last 10 years and I also provided the permalink. Directions for providing the permalink is located in the guidelines located here. Next, you will see I summarized the study by discussing what I learned and why I believe the nursing evidence based practice committee should focus their next research project on the problem I chose.

The next element is the evidence search terms which requires you to select key terms you used when searching for evidence. You will see the terms that I used are indicated here. I want to encourage you to use the terms nursing interventions and your problem. Doing so will bring up evidence related to your subject. Here you wills see an example of some studies and evidence that came up in the library I used the words nursing interventions and smoking. Finally, you want to select 4 or more key evidence search strategies you used. I want to point out that I did provide the resources that I used in completing this assignment. This is not required but highly encouraged as we are learning we need to support our thinking and discussions with evidence.

The PPE worksheet assignment is worth 175 points. I want to point out that you need to use scholarly writing, spelling, grammar, and complete sentences. Be sure you are using mostly your own words to answer questions and use in-text APA citations for any paraphrased sentences. You will can find APA resources as well as writing assistance in your resource tab.   
  
Have fun completing this extremely valuable learning activity! This activity is a great way to help support your knowledge of how to utilize research and evidence-based practice as a BSN. As always, please contact your NR439 instructor with any questions.