Interventions

The most well-known tool for developing questions about interventions is known as PICO. Using PICO your question is broken down into 4 parts

P   Patient or Population

I   Intervention

C   Comparison (what is the intervention being compared with)

O   Outcome

An example using PICO

You are thinking of setting up a group knee class for patients with knee osteoarthritis.

P   Adults diagnosed with knee osteoarthritis

I   Physiotherapy-led group knee class

C   Individual physiotherapy sessions

O   Pain and disability

Your question could be:

In adults with knee osteoarthritis, does a physiotherapy-led group exercise class or individual sessions of physiotherapy result in a greater reduction in pain and disability?

Service Delivery

A common tool for developing questions and search concepts for service development is 'ECLIPS'

E   Expectation (what are you looking to improve/change?)

C   Client group

L   Location

I   Impact

P   Professionals

S   Service

An example using ECLIPS

E   Improve service by introducing group knee class

C   Adults with knee osteoarthritis

L   Physiotherapy outpatient department

I   Costs and patient satisfaction

P   Physiotherapists

S   Primary or secondary care musculoskeletal

Your question could be:

'What are the costs and levels of patient satisfaction associated with group knee classes for adults with knee osteoarthritis delivered by physiotherapists in primary or secondary care musculoskeletal outpatient services?'

Qualitative research

You might want a tool to develop a question and search strategy that will be answered by qualitative research evidence. A commonly used tool is SPIDER

S   Sample

PI   Phenomenon of interest

D   Design

E   Evaluation

R   Research Type

An example using SPIDER

S   Adults with knee osteoarthritis

PI   Physiotherapy-led Group Knee Class

D   Interview or focus group

E   Experiences

R   Qualitative

Your question could be:

What are the experiences of adults with knee osteoarthritis who have attended physiotherapy-led group knee classes?