Alternatives to the PICO Model

Whilst the PICO Model is the most well-known framework for developing an answerable research question and structuring your search there are other frameworks available.

SPIDER

The SPIDER tool was developed from the PICO tool to support incorporating the synthesis of qualitative research into systematic reviews:

Sample  like P but smaller/non generalisable (smaller samples are used in qualitative research, where findings are not intended to be generalized to the general population)

Phenomenon of Interest  behaviours, experiences & interventions (qualitative research examines how and why certain experiences, behaviours and decisions are occurring (in contrast to effectiveness of an intervention)

Design of study  – (the study design influences the robustness of the study analysis and findings)

Evaluation (evaluation outcomes may include more subjective outcomes (such as views, attitudes, etc.)

Research type (qualitative, quantitative and mixed-methods research could be searched for)

EXAMPLE:

What are young parents experiences of attending ante-natal education?

Sample- young OR teen* OR parent* OR mother* OR father*

Phenomenon of Interest- antenatal OR prenatal OR pregnancy OR birth OR class OR education OR workshop

Design of study- questionnaire* OR survey* OR interview* OR focus group* OR case stud* OR observ*

Evaluation- view* OR experienc* OR opinion* OR attitude* OR perceive* OR belive* OR feel* OR know* OR understand*

Research type- qualitative OR mixed method
SPICE

The SPICE framework has been designed for finding qualitative information:

Setting- Where? In what context?
Perspective- For who?
Intervention/Interest- What?
Comparison- What else?
Evaluation- How well? What result?

EXAMPLE:

Setting- Community health services
Perspective- Caregivers of people with dementia
Intervention (Phenomenon of Interest)- Reminiscence therapy
Comparison- None
Evaluation- Attitudes OR coping skills

#An extra concept may be added e.g. relating to qualitative research e.g.
Qualitative research; Grounded theory; Ethnography; Qualitative studies; Interviews; Focus groups; Nursing research; Nursing evaluation research; Methodology; Field studies; Fieldwork
ECLIPSE

ECLIPSE is a framework which has been designed for topics relating to *Health Management and Policy*.

**Expectation** (Why does the user want the information?)

**Client** (For whom is the service intended?)

**Location** (Where is the service physically sited?)

**Impact** (What is the service change being evaluated? What would represent success? How is this measured?)

**Professionals** (Who provides or improves the service?)

**Service** (What type of service is under consideration?)

EXAMPLE:

*Expectation* - I'm looking to improve the discharge procedure from the hospital to the community where rehabilitation will continue. What have other people done?

*Client group* - People with head injuries.

*Location* - Community.

*Impact* - Improved continuity of care; patient satisfaction increased; greater sense of communication between professionals.

*Professionals* - Hospital nurses, community staff, social services.

*Service* - Community rehabilitation service.