Designing a Search String for Research

PICO Research question:

1. **Categorize keywords from PICO question:**

Population/condition (P)	Intervention (I)	Comparison (C)	Outcome (O)

2. Identify truncations [*] and wild cards [?] according to the syntax of each database. Use quotes ["…."] to search as a phrase when appropriate.

Population/condition (P)	Intervention (I)	Comparison (C)	Outcome (O)

3. Following the UMD PDF examples, create a test search string including truncations and Boolean operator connections. Test the search string in one of the following databases:

- Academic Search Complete (EBSCO)

- ScienceDirect (Elseviere)

- Pubmed