

UCSF/CHN FPI S EBM Consult

Clinical Question and Search Strategy

- Questions should ask for foreground information (specifics about diagnosing or managing patients), not background information.
- Consider generating questions from patients' ideas, concerns and expectations about their illness and treatment
- If there are too many questions, choose those that, 1. are most relevant to patients' well being, 2. best address your knowledge gaps, or 3. are likely to recur on our service.

The 4 parts of a Question:

	1. Patient & problem		OR
AND	2. Intervention, exposure or prognostic factor		
AND	3. Comparison (optional)		
AND	4. Outcome		

Include all "AND" terms in your search strategy. Use the "OR" terms as alternative search terms.

The Question:

Example:

In patients with impaired renal function, does pre-treatment with N-Acetylcysteine (NAC) decrease the incidence of contrast agent-associated nephrotoxicity?