Activity Worksheet – Develop a Search Strategy

1. What is your topic?

2. Identify which concepts are P, I and O

   P _________________________________________________________________
   I _________________________________________________________________
   O __________________________________________________________________

3. Choose your search terms for P and I
   - Find the Subject Heading (MesH) for P
     P __________________________ Explode? YES ___ NO ___
   - What keyword* will you use? Will you include truncation?
     P __________________________________________________________________
   → Combine these results for P with OR

   - Find the Subject Heading (MesH) for I
     I __________________________ Explode? YES ___ NO ___
   - What keyword* will you use? Will you include truncation?
     I __________________________________________________________________
   → Combine these results for I with OR

4. Now combine the P and I results with AND
   - Check the results. If number is still high, identify the search terms for the O concept and combine these results with the result of P AND I

5. What limits will you use to refine your search?
   Population: _________________________________________________________________
   Paper characteristics: _________________________________________________________________

6. Select the paper that is the best evidence for your topic

7. Send this result and the Search History to yourself via email