**Search Strategy Planner:**

1. **What is your question? Include key concepts to search.**

2. **Analyze the question:**
   - Patient population, if clinical/problem
   - Intervention/action
   - Comparison
   - Desired outcome

3. **Select possible subject headings and subheadings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MeSH</th>
<th>CINAHL</th>
<th>Key words – for other database(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. **Run subject search – use AND, OR & Explode as appropriate**

5. **Limit results** (English, human or age group, sex, timeframe, subsets, CINAHL Specific Interest)

6. **Modify search – broaden or narrow as needed**

7. **Search in other databases – list choices**

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Created by Margaret (Peg) Allen, MLS, FMLA and Pamela Sherwill-Navarro, MLS, AHIP, BSN, RN for MLA CE "Expert searching for Evidence Based Nursing." c2011. Used with permission.