



Ministry of Health and Sports

Developing a good research question

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Online Brainstorming Workshop for Further Development of Action Plan for Implementation Research (SH), DMR (POLB), 17th-18th September 2020



Outline

- What?
- Why?
- How?





WHAT?



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What is a Research Question?

Uncertainty about something
the investigator wants to resolve





What is a Research Question?

What a researcher would like to know:

What? When? Who? Where?

How? Why?

about a problem





A Research Problem

What is \neq What should be

Reasons for this difference is unclear

More than one possible solution to the problem





A Research Problem

Non-researchable problem

- A discrepancy exists between desired and observed situation
- We know why the discrepancy exists
- We know the best solution

Researchable problem

- A discrepancy exists between desired and observed situation
- We do not know why the discrepancy exists
- Different solutions exist but we do not know the best one





WHY?



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A well-developed research question

- help researchers **focus** their research by providing a path through the research process
- helps researcher **avoid** the “all-about” paper





HOW?



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Steps in developing research questions

- Step 1: Choose a General Research Area
- Step 2: Find Background Information
- Step 3: Translate Your Interest into a Research Question
- Step 4: Modify Your Research Question





Sources of research questions

Articles

Conferences

Clinical/ Field
practice

Discuss with
experts

Observations

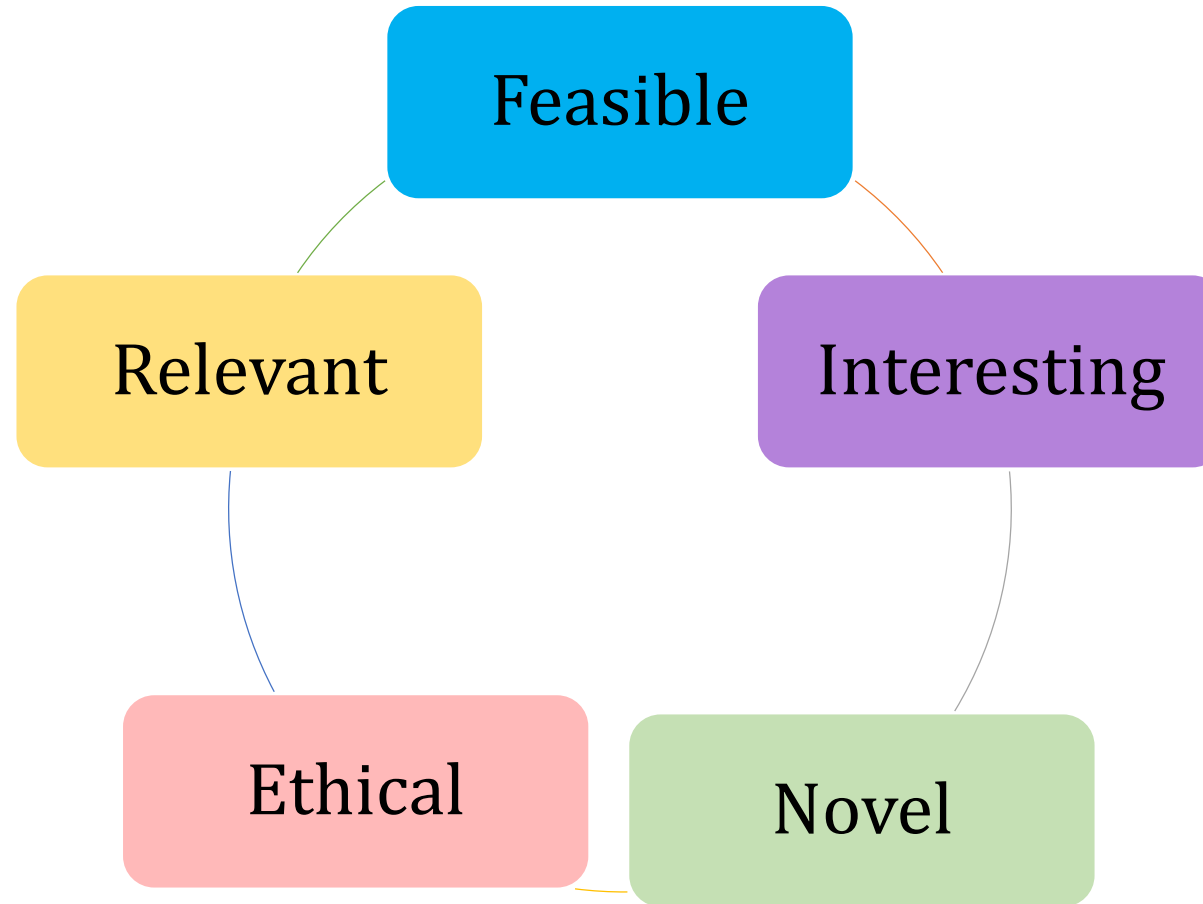
Previous
research

Research
question





Criteria for a good research question (FINER)



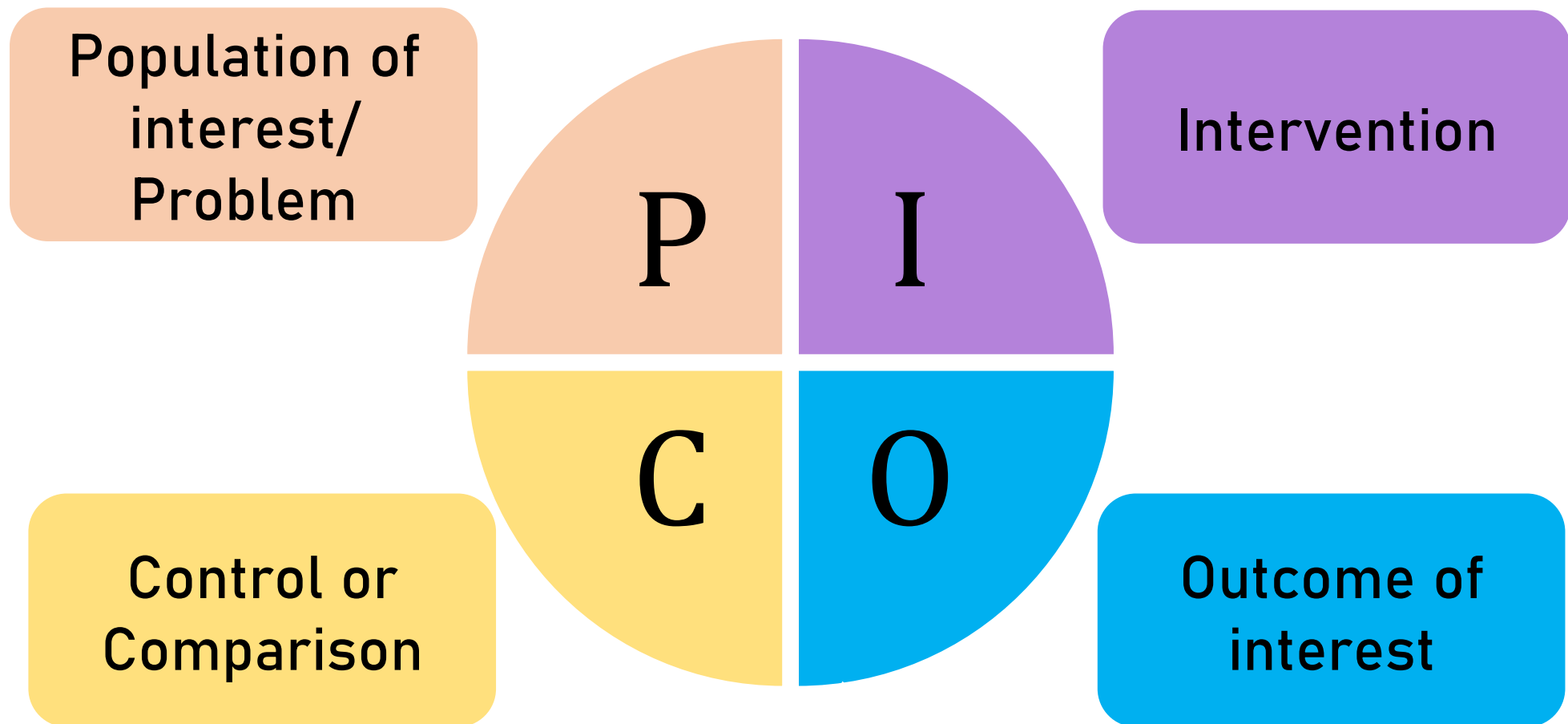


- What is the prevalence of substance use among adolescents? [**FINER**]
- What are the consequences of prolonged screen time among children? [**FINER**]
- What is the prevalence of adolescents who have suicidal idea and attempt? [**FINER**]
- What is the baseline perception, challenges and needs of teaching comprehensive sexuality education component among school teachers who received LSE t1 [**FINER**]





Components of a good research question (PICO)





Does the use of community recreation activities compared to educational programs on lifestyle changes reduce the risk of diabetes mellitus among obese children?

Problem or Population	Intervention	Comparison or Control	Outcome
obese children	Community recreation activities	Educational programs on lifestyle changes	Risk of diabetes mellitus





What is the effectiveness of community-based peer to peer education on NCD behavior risk factors of school-going adolescents?

P roblem or P opulation	I ntervention	C omparison or C ontrol	O utcome
school-going adolescents	community-based peer to peer education	-	NCD behavior risk factors





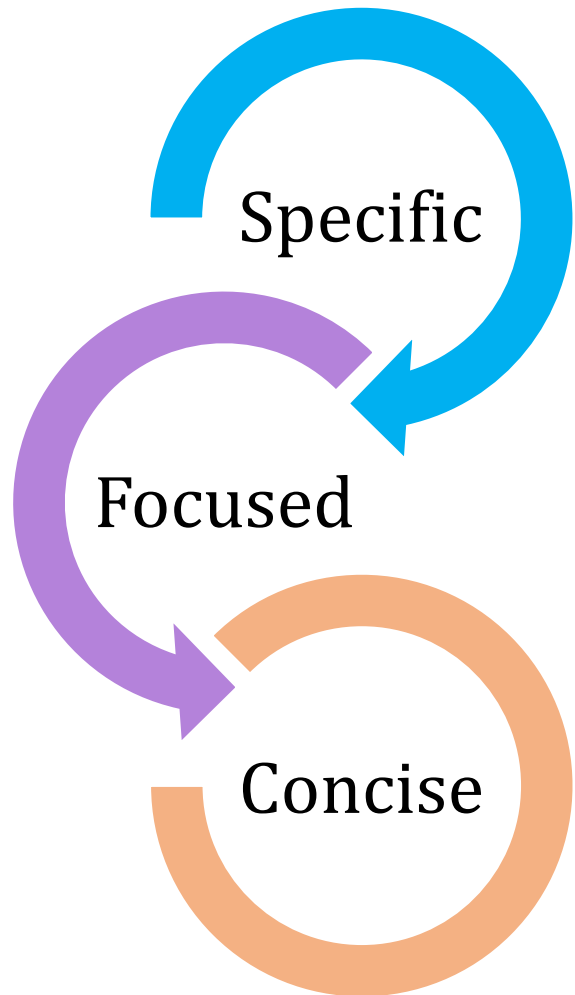
What are the factors influencing access to sexual and reproductive health services among migrant manual workers aged 10-24 years from SME (Small and Medium Enterprises)?

Problem or Population	Intervention	Comparison or Control	Outcome
migrant manual workers aged 10-24 years from SME	-	-	access to sexual and reproductive health services





Key features of a good research question



It provides enough specifics that one's audience can easily understand its purpose without needing additional explanation

It is narrow enough that it can be answered

It is expressed in the fewest possible words





- Is the brief intervention effective for adolescent drug use?

[**Good? Why?**]

- What is the prevalence of substance use among adolescents?

[**Good? Why?**]

- Is social network use harmful to children?

[**Good? Why?**]





Questions, comments and suggestion

