1. Define your question using PICO by identifying: Patient/Problem, Intervention, Comparison group and Outcome:

Patient/Problem: Middle aged male amputees suffering phantom limb pain
Intervention: Gabapentin
Comparison: Placebo
Outcome: Decreased pain symptoms

Write out your question:

In middle aged male amputees suffering phantom limb pain, is gabapentin, compared to placebo, effective in decreasing pain symptoms?

2. Type of question/problem:

Circle one: [ ] Therapy / Prevention / Diagnosis / Etiology / Prognosis

3. Type of studies/publications to include in the search:

Check all that apply:

☑ Meta-analysis
☑ Systematic review
☐ Clinical practice guidelines
☑ Randomized controlled trial
☑ Research studies or articles
☑ Case report or series

4. List main topics and alternate terms from your PICO question that can be used for your search:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gabapentin</th>
<th>Phantom limb pain</th>
<th>Postamputation pain</th>
<th>Post amputation pain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>Man</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amputee</td>
<td>Amputation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pain symptoms</td>
<td>Neuropathic pain symptoms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Write out your search strategy:

Gabapentin AND Phantom limb pain OR Postamputation pain OR Post amputation pain AND Men OR Man OR Male AND Amputee OR Amputation AND Pain symptoms OR Neuropathic pain symptoms

6. List any limits that may apply to your search:

Gender: Male
Age: Middle aged (45 to 64 years)
Year(s) of publication: 2000-2016
Language(s): English

7. List the databases you will search:

Medline
Scopus
Cochrane Library
Health Collection (Informit)