**Problem statement**

Patients may acquire hospital acquired infections if healthcare providers fail to wash their hands before and after handling them.

**Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study is to determine if the practice ofwashing hands will help care providers to reduce the rate of hospital acquired infections.

**Evidence-Based Research Question**

Is the practice of washing hands among healthcare workers more effective in reducing hospital acquired infections than no hand washing?

Problem- hospital acquired infections

Intervention-washing hands

Comparison-no washing hands

Outcome- reduction of hospital acquired infections

**Hypothesis**

Encouraging healthcare workers to wash their hands using soap and water or sanitizers will lead to improvement in hand hygiene, which will in turn help to reduce the rate of infections acquired among patients during hospital admissions compared to dealing with patients without washing hands.

**Reasons for selecting this topic**

I selected this topic because hand washing among healthcare providers before and after contacts with patients prevents the spread of bacterial infections among patients. Compliance to hand washing alone can enhance the safety of patients because microbes that cause hospital acquired infections are usually carried through care providers’ hands. Failure to wash hands may lead to increased risk of infections such as urinary tract infections, surgical site infections, and bloodstream infections.

**Key search words**

The key words that I would begin my literature search are hospital ac, hand wa, and patient safe. Hospital ac will help to search hospital acquired infections, hand wa will search hand washing, hand washing steps, hand washingprocedures, and hand washing soap. Patient safe will search patient safety, patient safety indicators, patient safety and quality, patient safety goals, and patient safety culture. These words will help me obtain relevant literature for my research.