

Role of a Speech-Language Pathologist in Outpatient Brain Injury Rehabilitation



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Disclosure Statement

- There are no financial disclosures

Traumatic vs Non-Traumatic Brain Injuries

Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI)

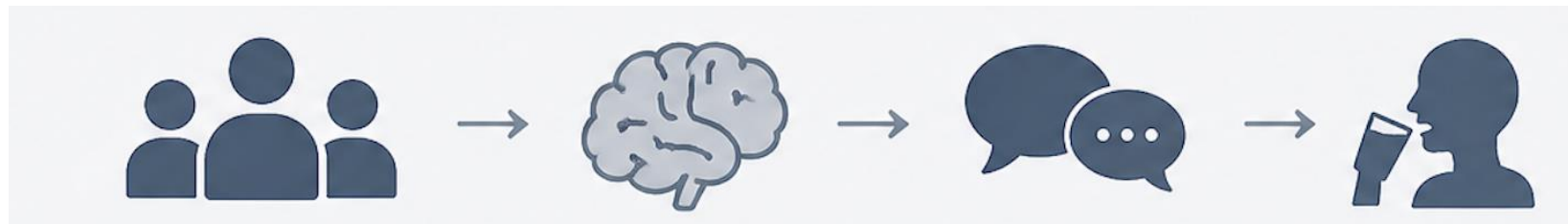
- Caused by external force to the head
- Types of TBI:
 - Concussion (mild TBI)
 - Penetrating Injury
 - Diffuse Axonal injury

Non-Traumatic Brain Injuries

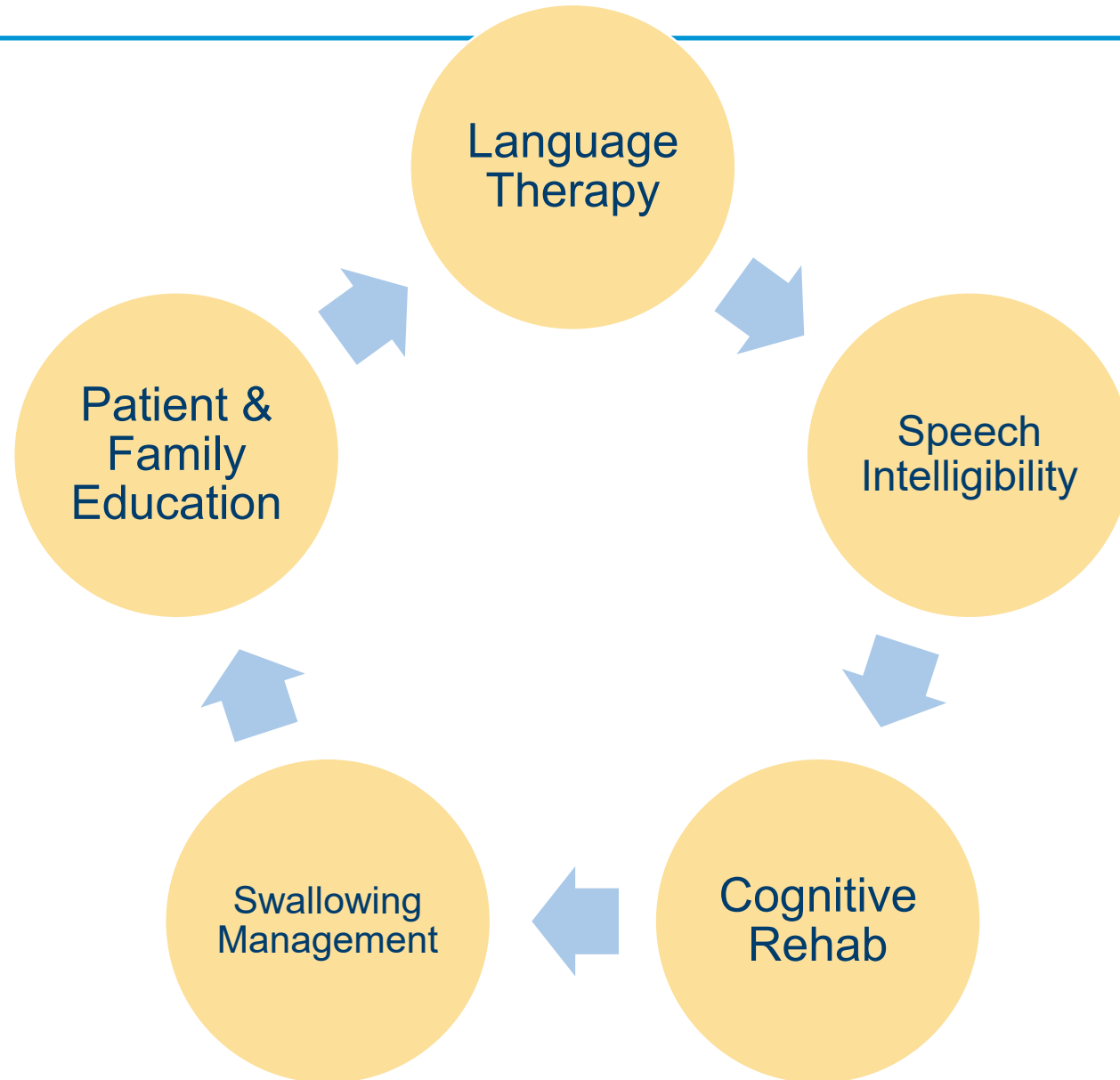
- Caused by internal factors
- Types of nTBI:
 - Stroke
 - Anoxic Brain Injury
 - Brain Tumors
 - Infections (ex: meningitis, encephalitis, etc.)

Common Deficits

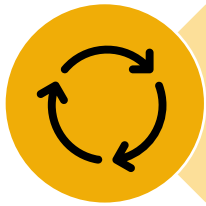
- Cognitive-Communication Impairments
- Language Impairments
 - Aphasia → expression (word-finding difficulties) and comprehension
- Motor Speech Disorders
 - Dysarthria → slurred, imprecise articulation/speech with consistent errors
 - Apraxia of Speech → motor planning deficit with inconsistent errors
- Swallowing Impairments
 - Dysphagia → oral and pharyngeal phases of the swallow



What is the SLP's scope of practice?



Why Outpatient SLP Services?



Continued Recovery



Focus on Functional Gains

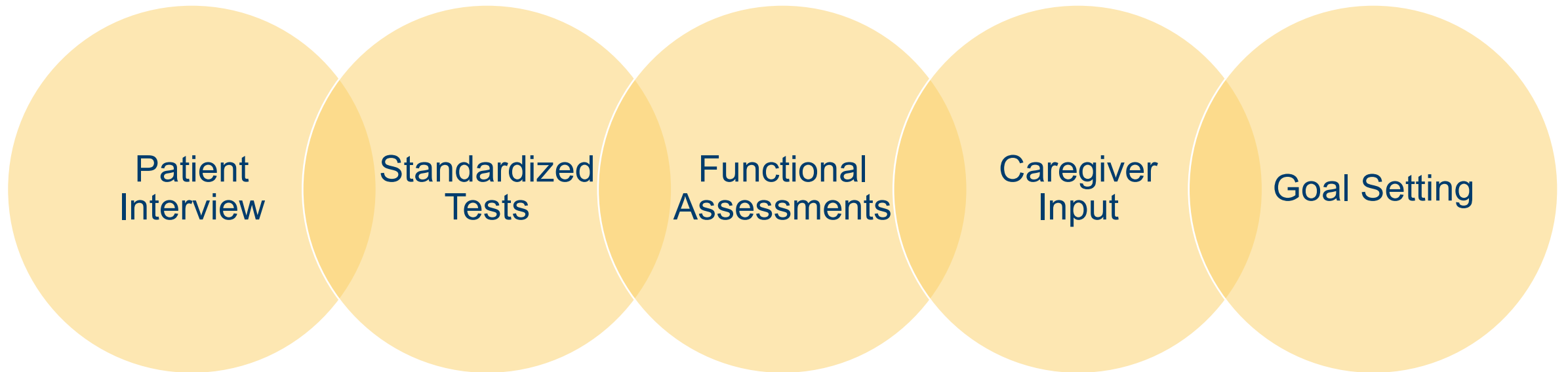


Community Reintegration



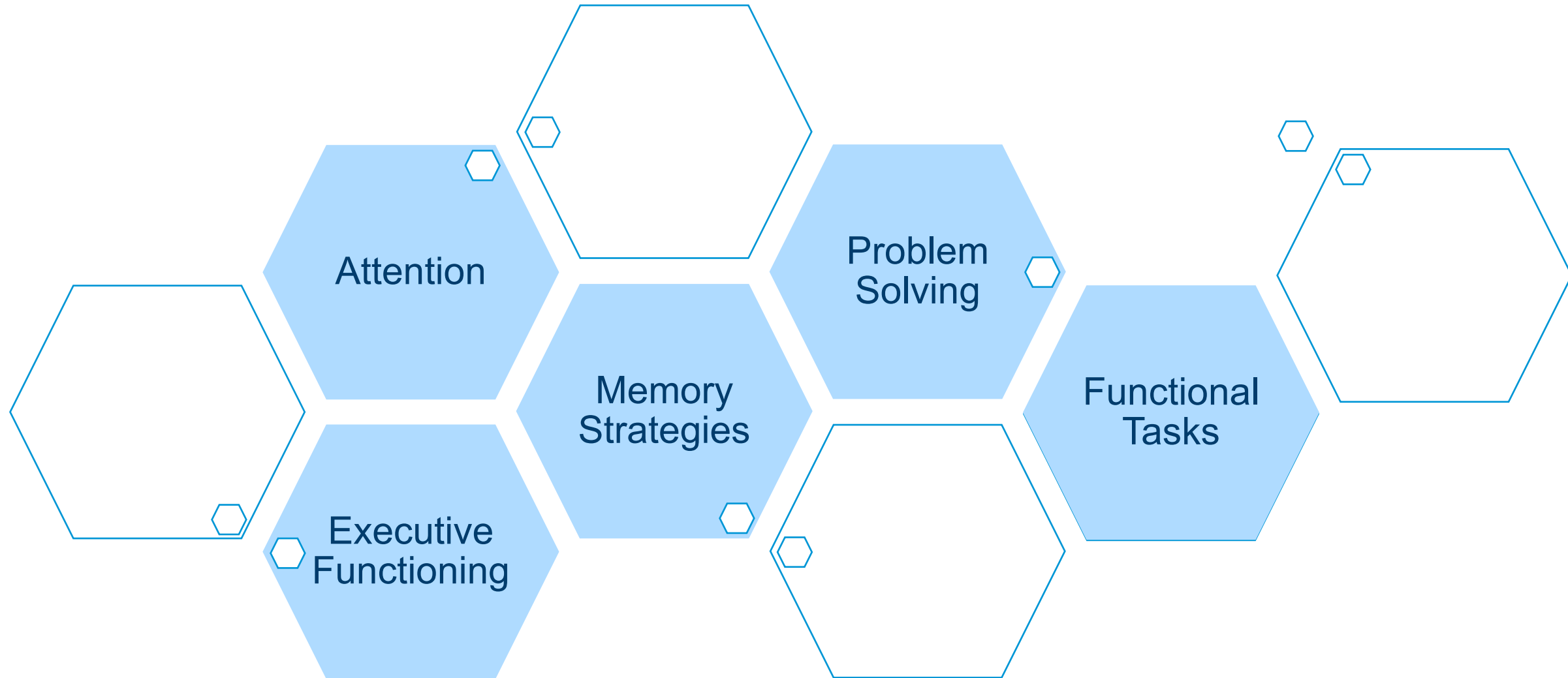
Long-Term Support

Assessment Process



Treatment

Cognitive-Communication Treatment



Compensatory Strategies & Cognitive-Communication

- External Aids
 - Phones
 - Alarms
 - Planners
- Internal Aids
- Environmental Supports

Aphasia Treatment



Motor Speech Treatment

Dysarthria

- Clear speech strategies

Apraxia of Speech

- Repetition for establishment of motor plan

Dysphagia

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graph LR; A[Diet Modifications] --> B[Compensatory Strategies]; B --> C[Exercises]; C --> D[Education]
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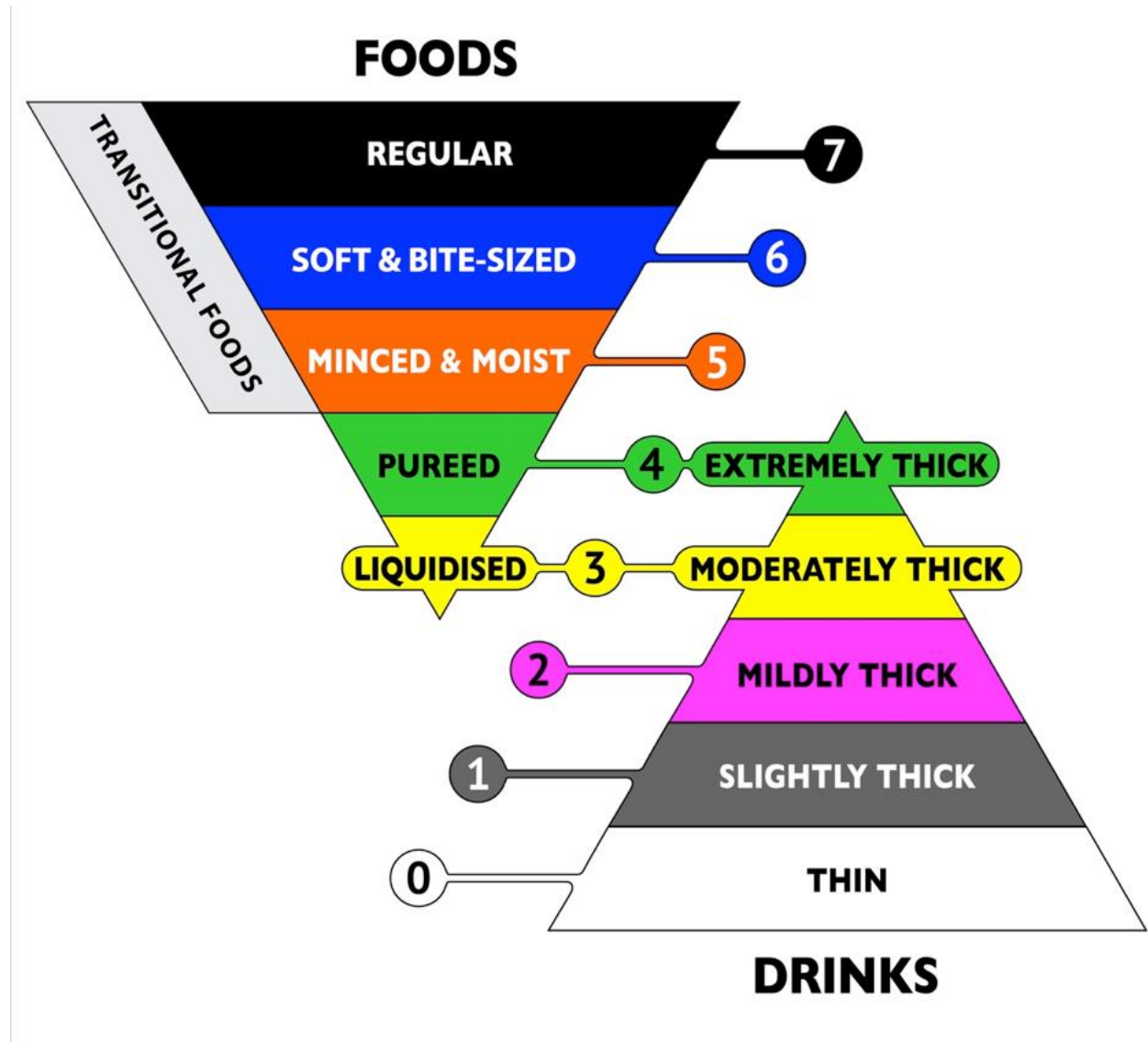
Diet
Modifications

Compensatory
Strategies

Exercises

Education

International Dysphagia Diet Standardization Initiative (IDDSI)



Caregiver Training

Education

Cueing
Strategies

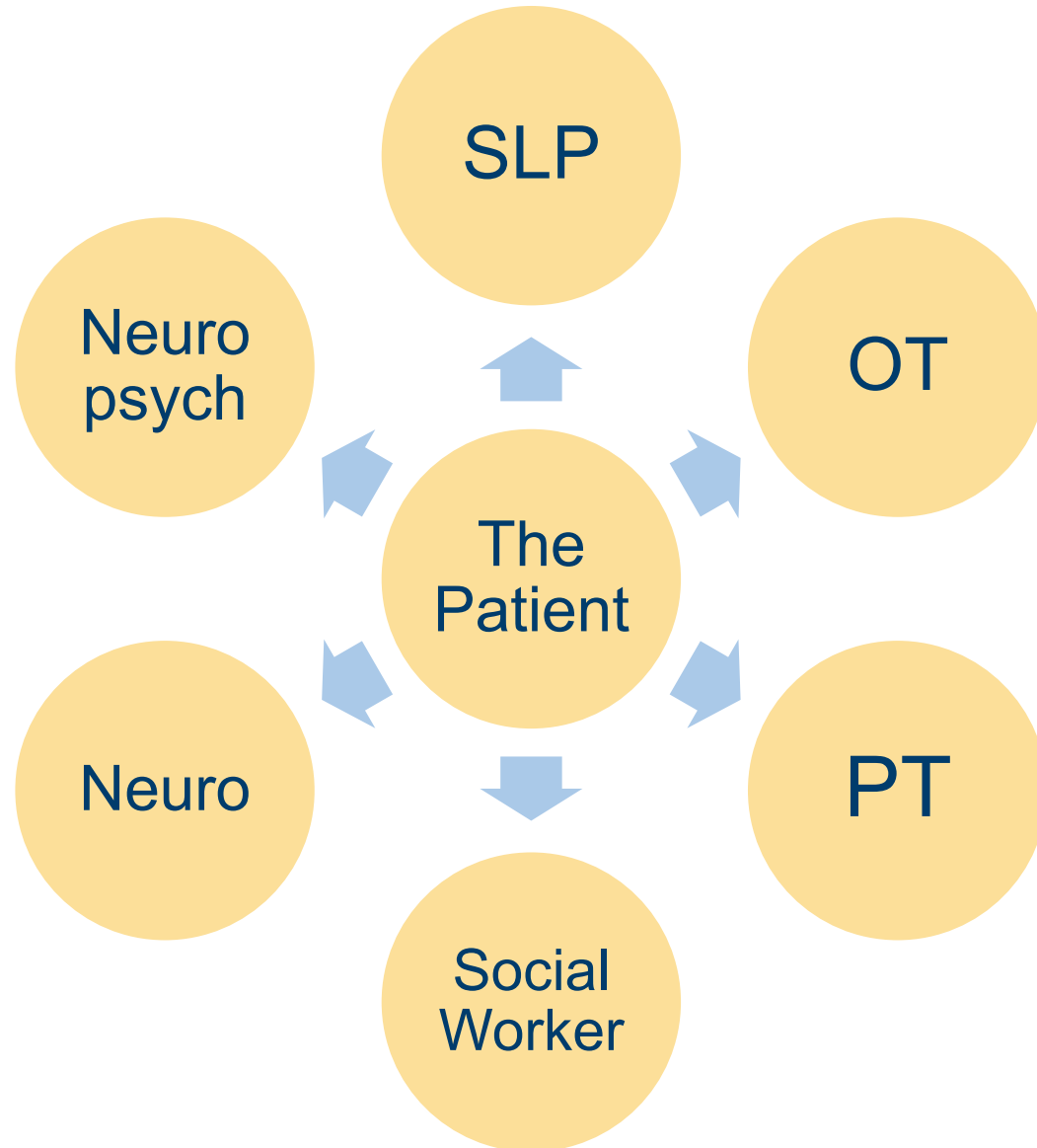
Communication
Support

Carryover

Functional Goal Setting

- Finances
- Returning to Work/School
- Social Participation
- Medication Management
- Household Management (cooking, cleaning, organizing)
- Safety Awareness
- Self-Advocacy

It's always a team approach!



Barriers

- Insurance Limitations
- Patient Motivation
- Patient Transportation
- Language
- Carryover/Generalization

As Always...

Evidence-Based
Treatment
that is
Patient-Centered!



Questions?



Thank you

for your time and attention today. Please feel free to email me with any additional questions.

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