





Child Life Specialists More Than Play

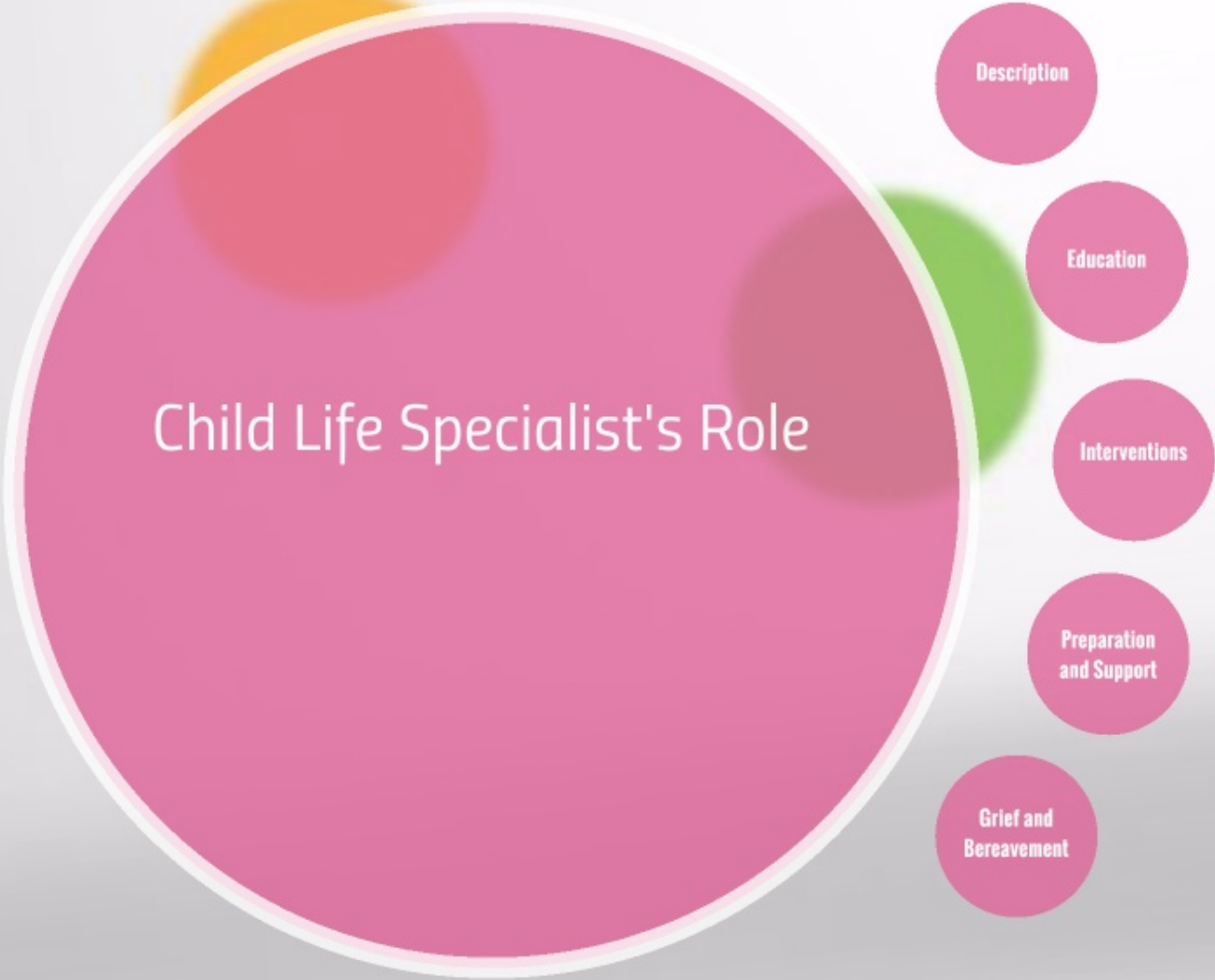
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Objectives

- Define Child Life Services
- Child Life Specialist Role as part of the multi-disciplinary team
- Understand how children cope and adjust to hospitalization





The diagram features a large central pink circle with a white border containing the text "Child Life Specialist's Role". To the right of this circle is a vertical column of five smaller pink circles, each containing a role. The circles are arranged in a descending staircase pattern from top-left to bottom-right. The background is light gray with several large, out-of-focus colored circles in shades of orange, red, green, and blue.

Child Life Specialist's Role

Description

Education

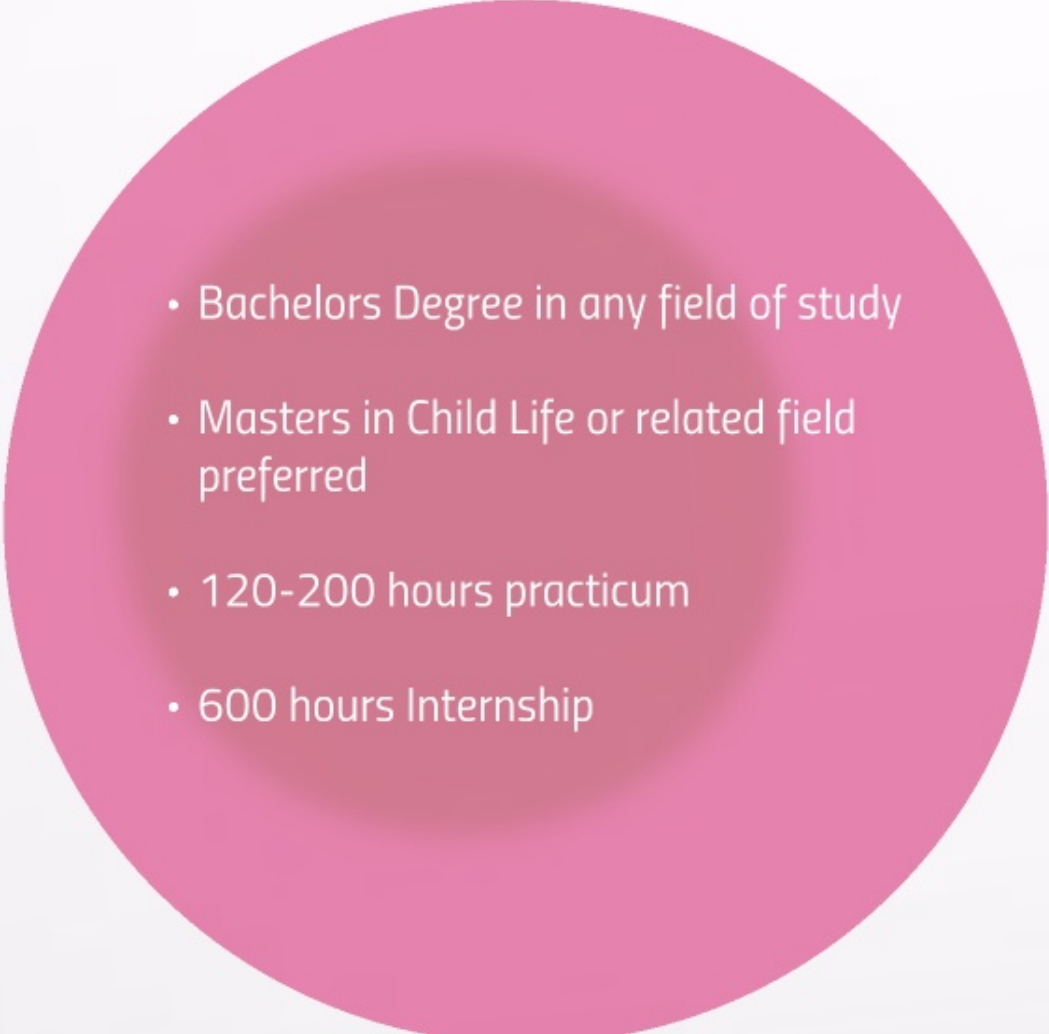
Interventions

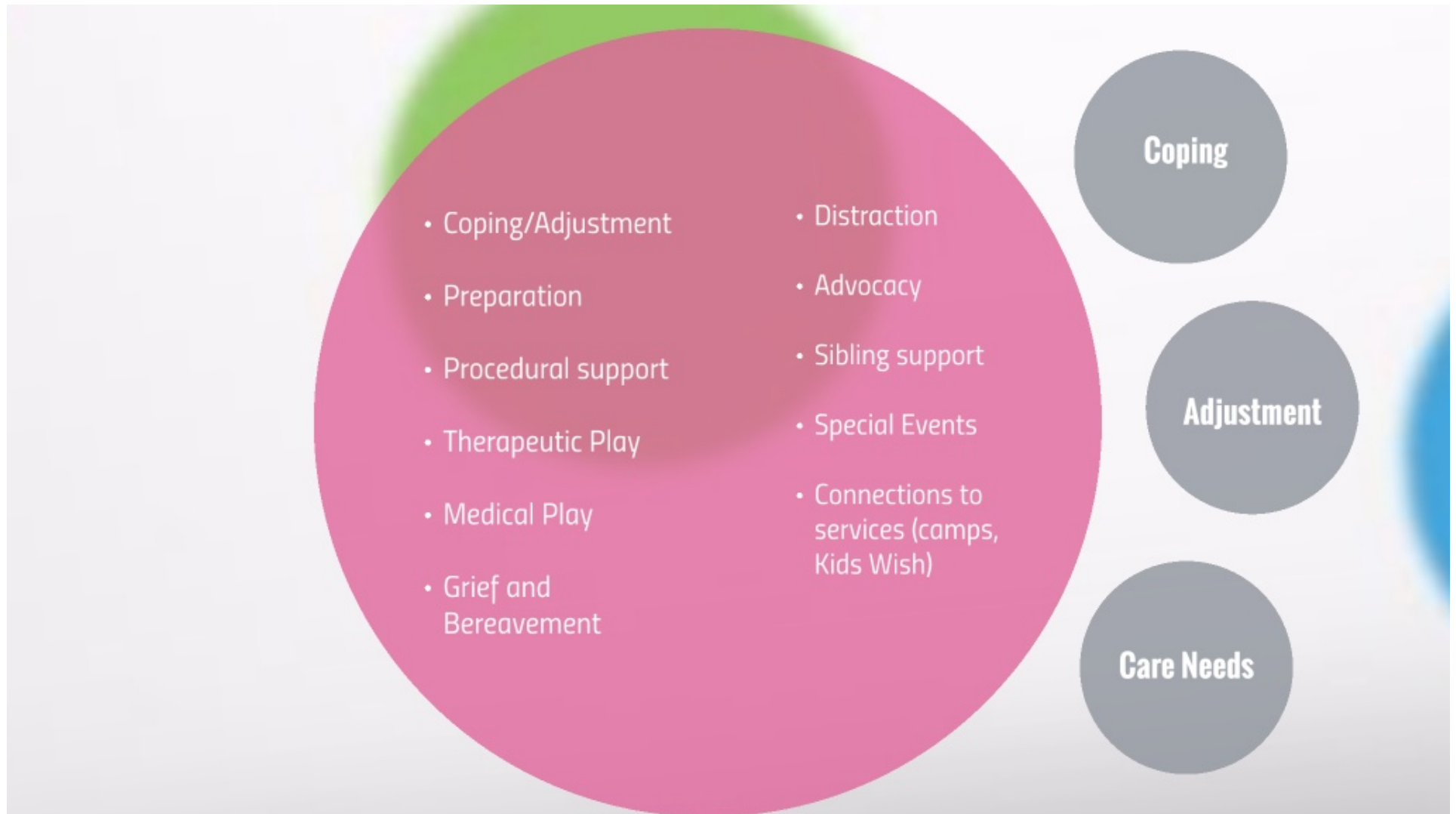
Preparation
and Support

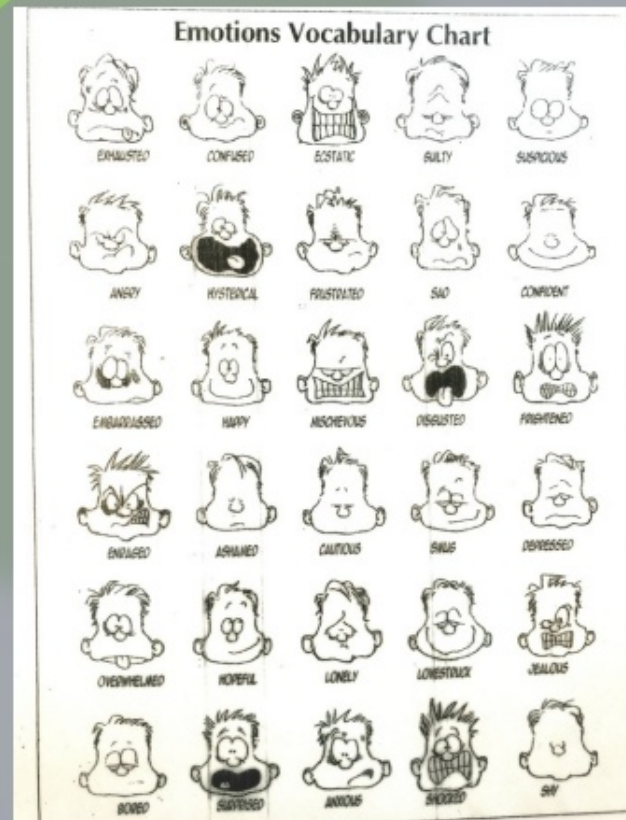
Grief and
Bereavement



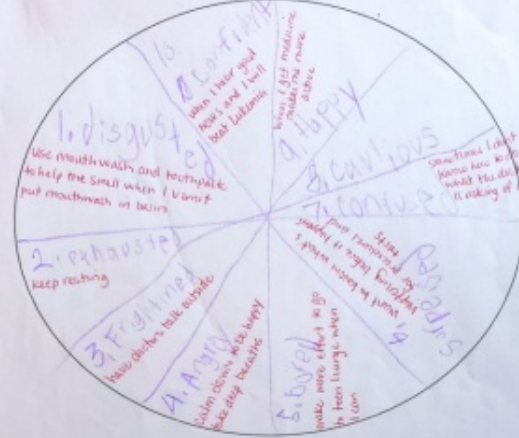
Help reduce the impact of
stressful or traumatic
experiences that effect the
development, health, and
well-being of patients and
families

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- Bachelors Degree in any field of study
 - Masters in Child Life or related field preferred
 - 120-200 hours practicum
 - 600 hours Internship





Feelings Pizza/Pie:



☒ Exhausted - when get chemo tired but can't sleep

☒ Annoyed - when no one

☒ Disgusted - when throw up

☒ Frightened - when get poked

☒ Bored - staying inside hospital long time

☒ Confused - tell me something don't understand

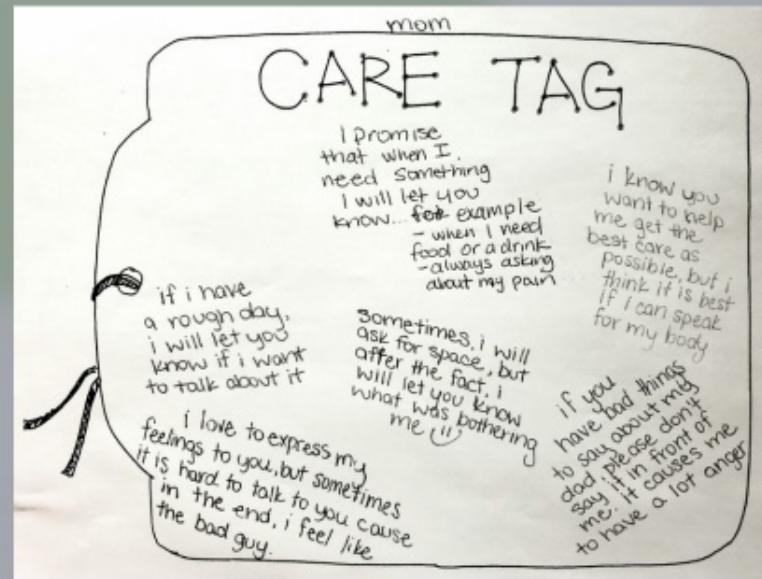
☒ Happy - say something getting better

☒ Confident - tell me something is good & I can beat all of this

☒ Nervous - if they don't give me medicine

☒ Scared - when tell me to do something

All Japan (2000) "Writing as a Sacred Path: A Practical Guide to Writing with Passion and Purpose"



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- Explain procedure
 - Medical Play
 - Validation of feelings
 - Explain patients role in participation
 - Distraction
 - Advocacy

- 
- Help decrease fear
 - Sibling support
 - Create memories
 - Validation
 - Silence is OK





Communication

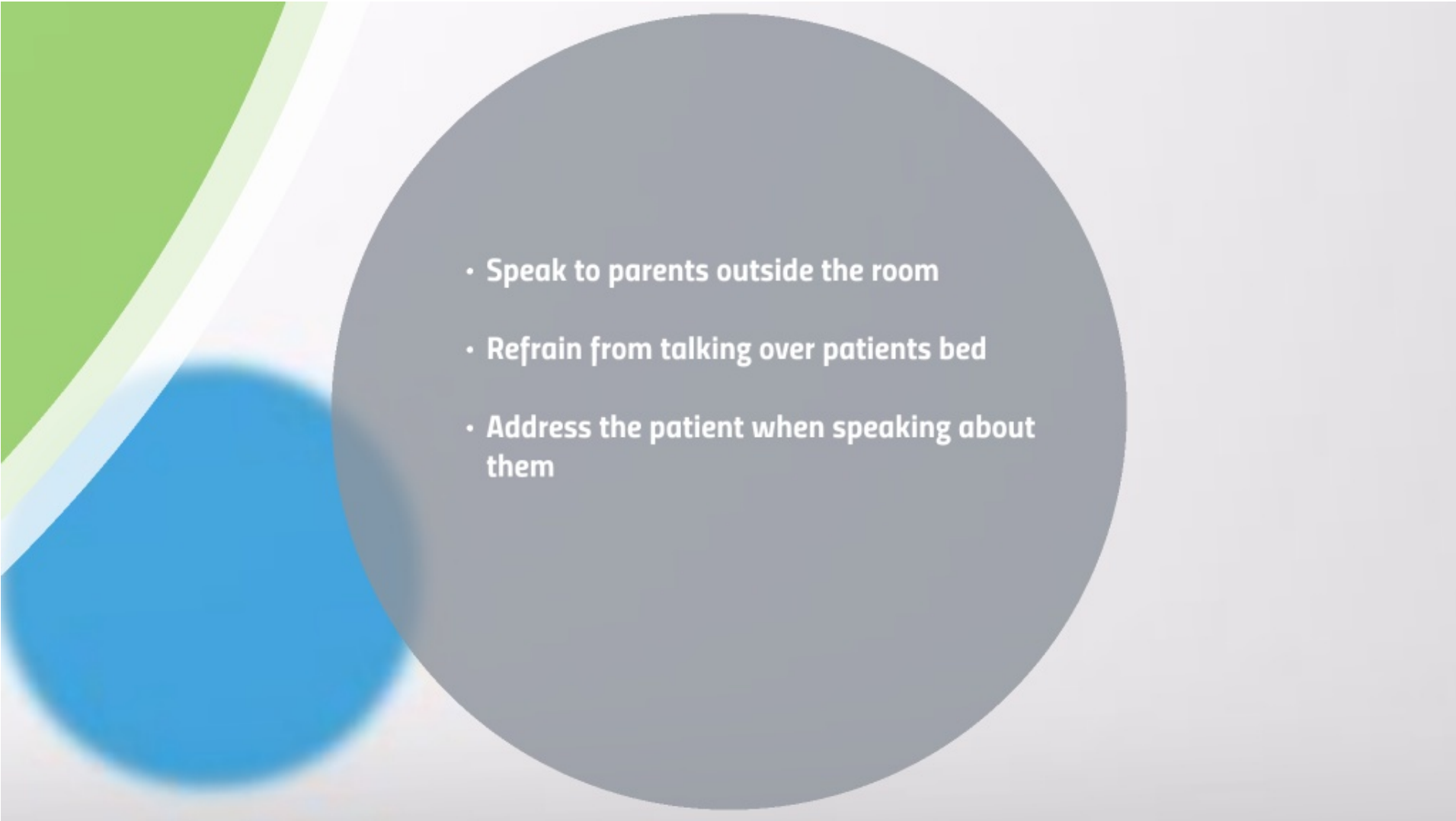
Patients

Parents

Staff

- 
- **Provide age-appropriate language**
 - **Open ended questions**
 - **Simple concrete explanations**
 - **Answer patients questions**

- 
- Honest
 - Putting words to tears
 - Limit medical terminology
 - Maintain boundaries and limits

- 
- Speak to parents outside the room
 - Refrain from talking over patients bed
 - Address the patient when speaking about them



Advocate

- Age is only a number
- Not all children are cooperative
- Allow patient to express thoughts and feelings
- Validate and Reassure
- Language is important





Straight from the patients mouth...

- "Are my stitches going to open?"
- "Are they really going to put me to sleep? Like my dog?"
- "Will I become addicted to pain medication?"
- "I'm too dizzy, I can't get up"
- "Will I get sick from swallowing dye?"
- "Am I going to die?"
- "Why do they keep taking my blood?, I need it"
- "Will I wake up during anesthesia?"



**A child's life is like a piece of paper on which
every person leaves a mark**

-Chinese proverb

