



Sensory Tool to
Assess Responsiveness
(STAR)

South Warwickshire
NHS Foundation Trust



Neuro-behavioural Assessment of Disorders of Consciousness

*HOW DO WE KEEP ASSESSMENT AND
TREATMENT PERSONAL?*

Verity Stokes
Speech and Language Therapist,
Central England Rehabilitation Unit

12th October 2018



Introduction:

Context



Aims;

To consider:

How you make assessment meaningful to:

- the patient
- the family
- the treating team

How important is personalisation in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of people in PDOC

What makes each of us intimately human is that we carry a view of living life from the inside. To be human is to live in a personal world that carries a sense of how things are for the person.

This provides:

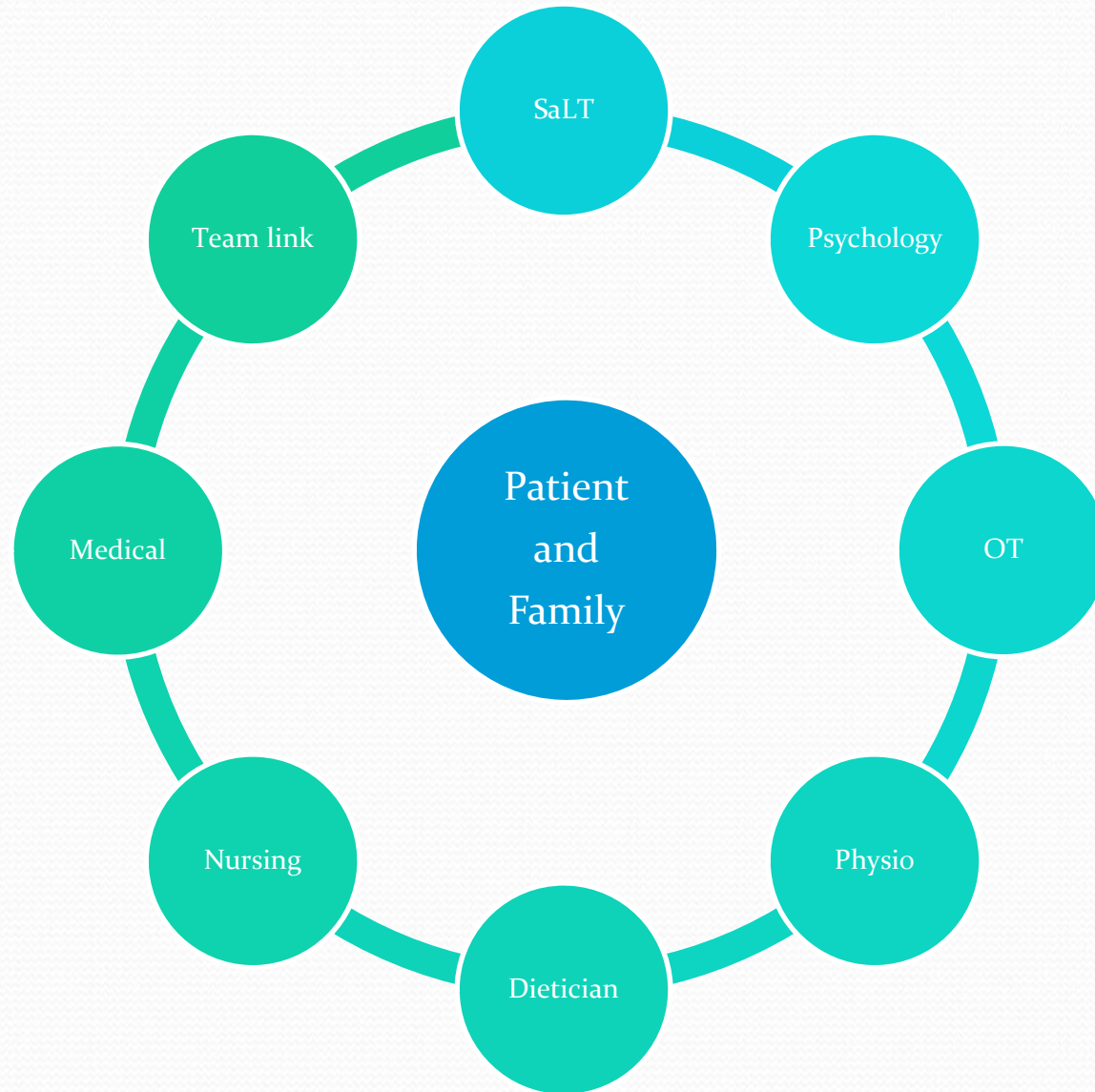
*important human textures for valuing the **qualities** of things. If such a dimension is neglected then something important is lost.'*

STAR Tool:



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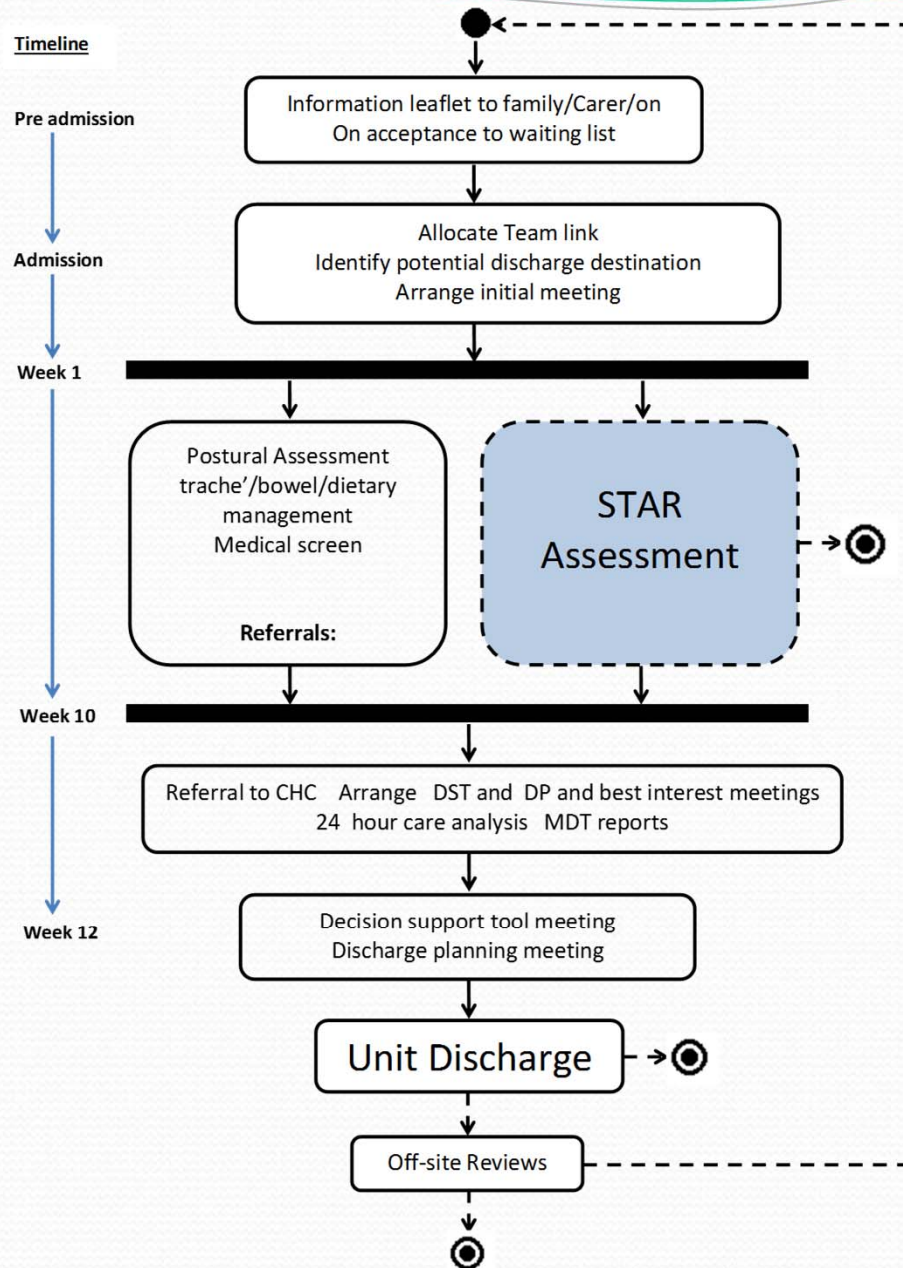
The team

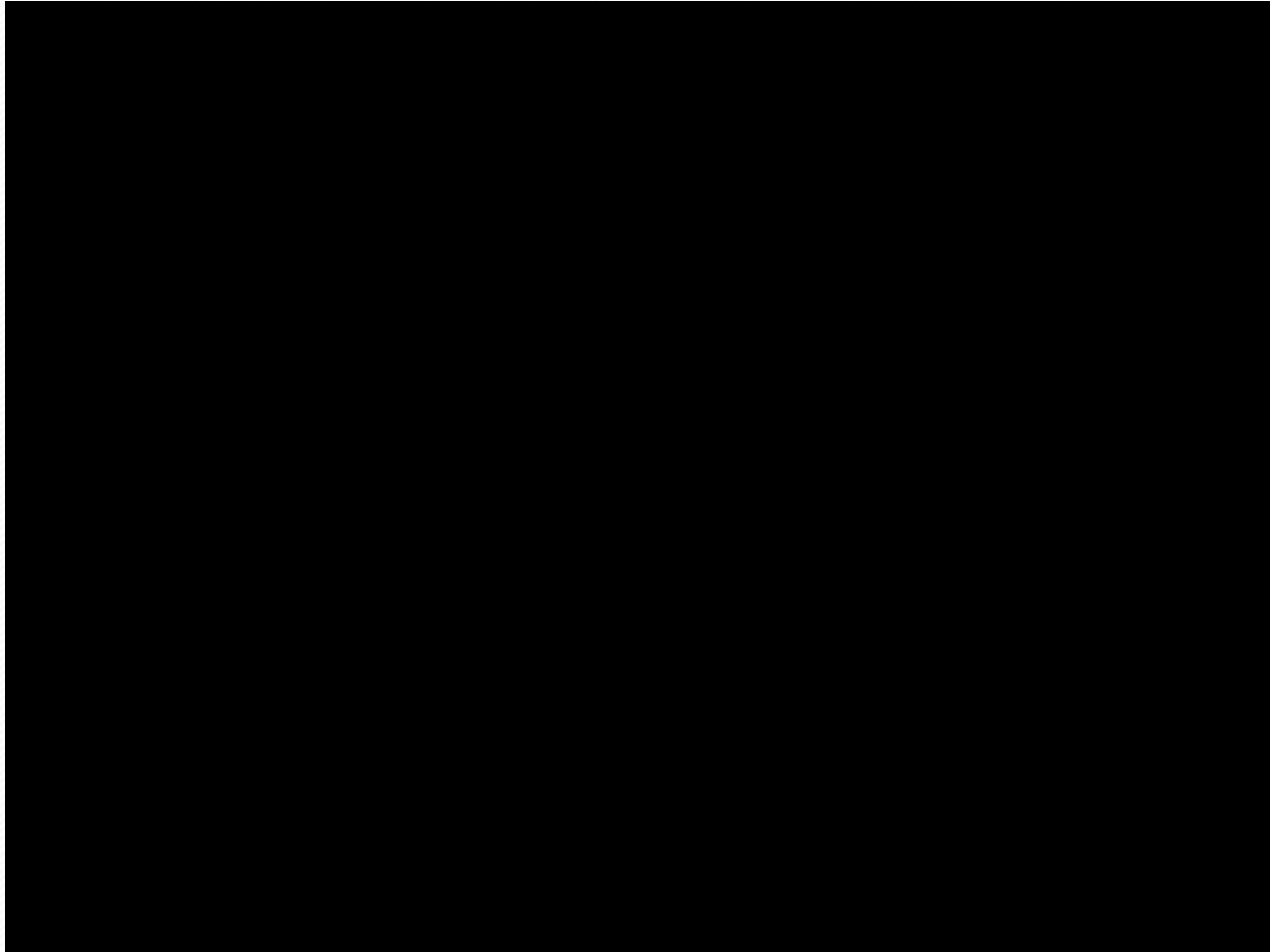




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PDOC Care Pathway

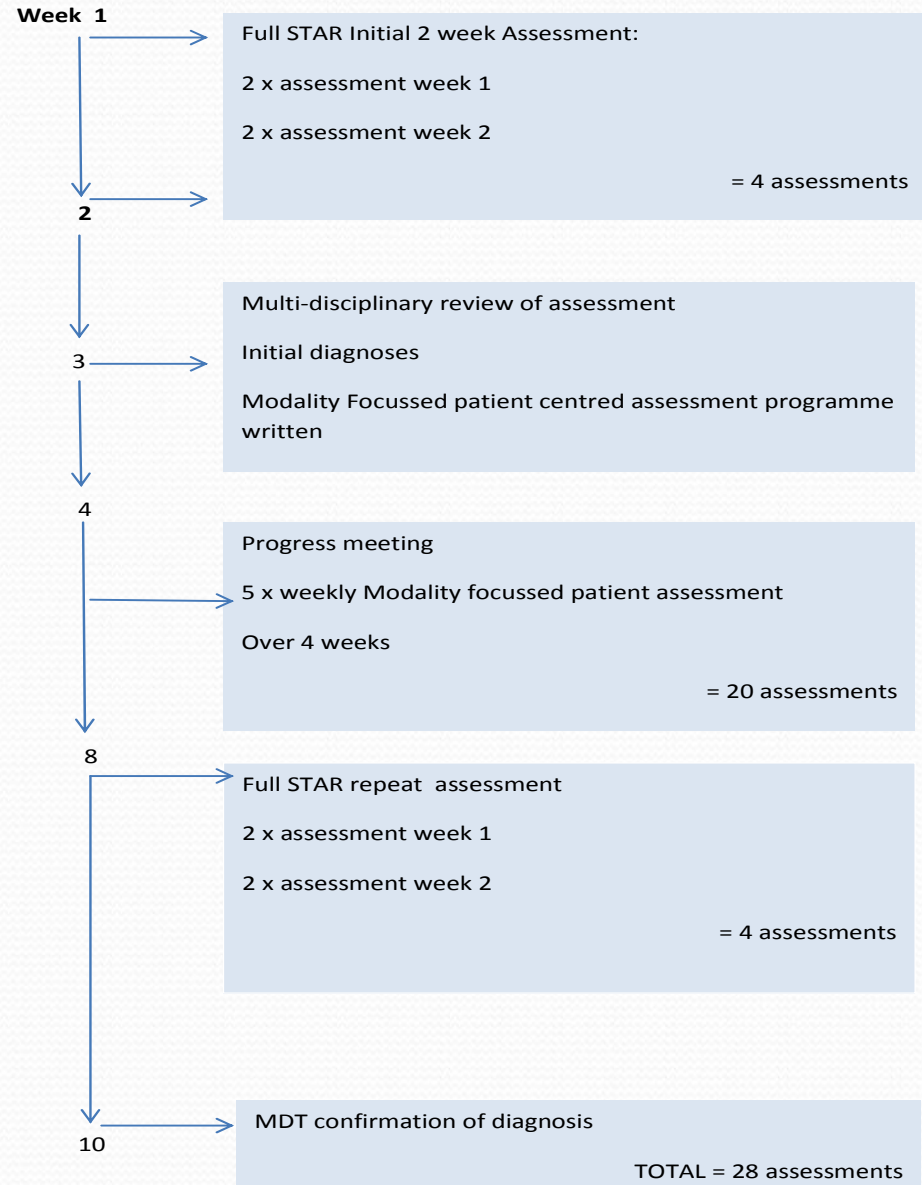




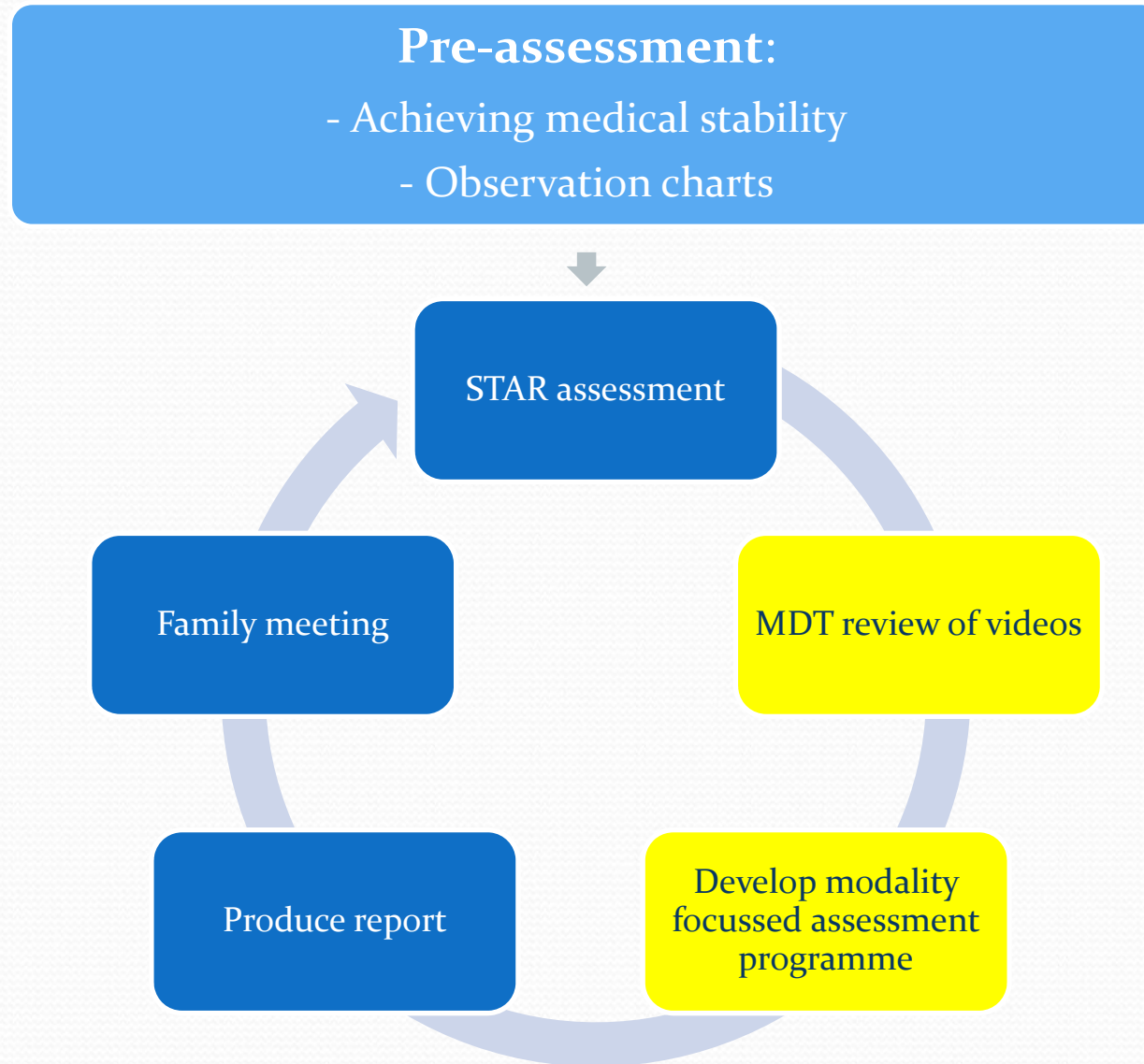
STAR Assessment

PDOC; STAR Assessment:

Timeline




Flow chart of STAR process





Patient Centred Modality focussed assessment programme



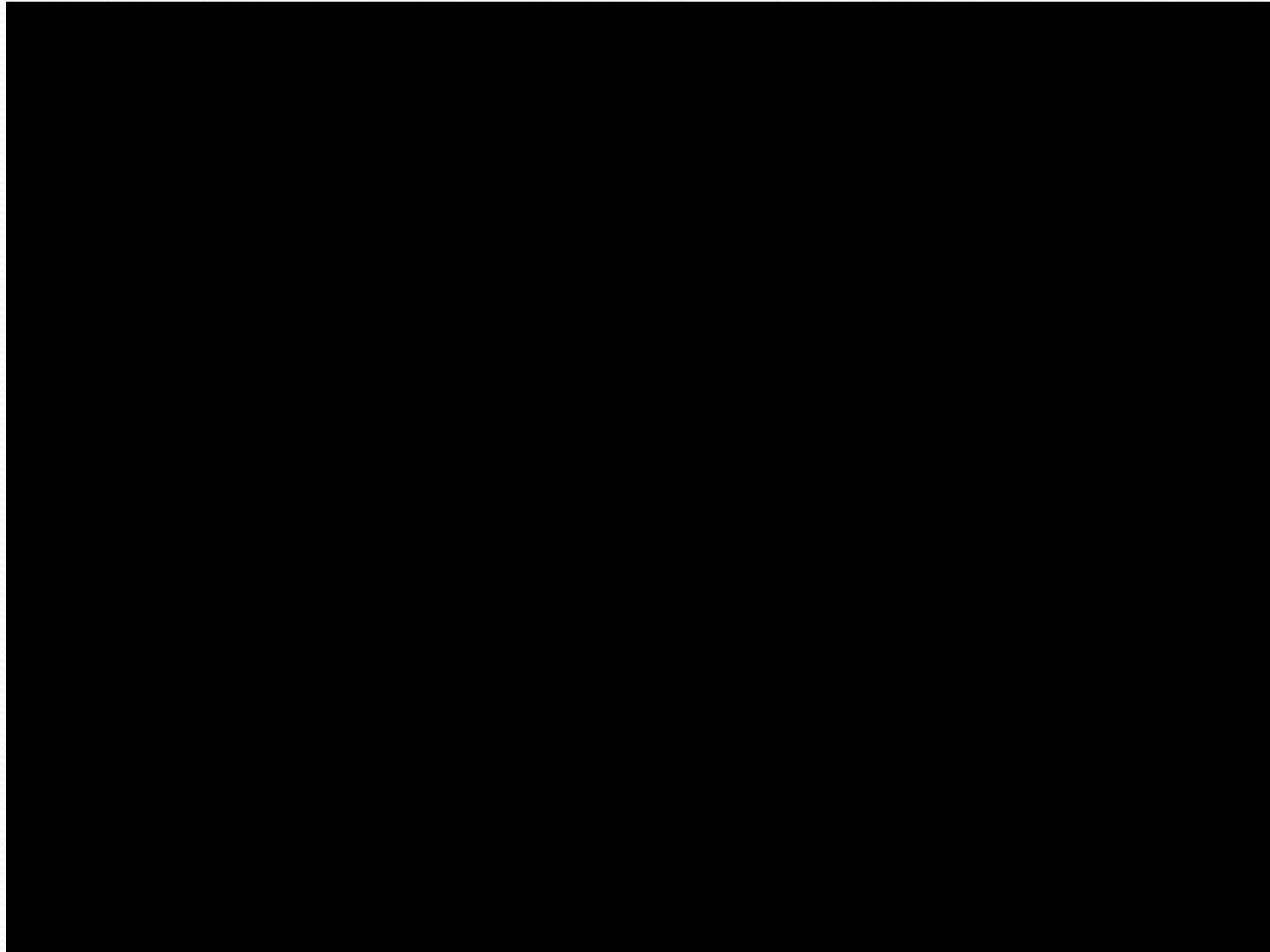
How you make
assessment meaningful
to the patient?



Baseline	Aim
Mrs B Explores her environment, she consistently looks at people as they walk around the bedside. She has inconsistently followed written commands to discriminate between 2 pictures.	To explore the consistency of following a written request to discriminate between two colours, simple clear family photos and animals.

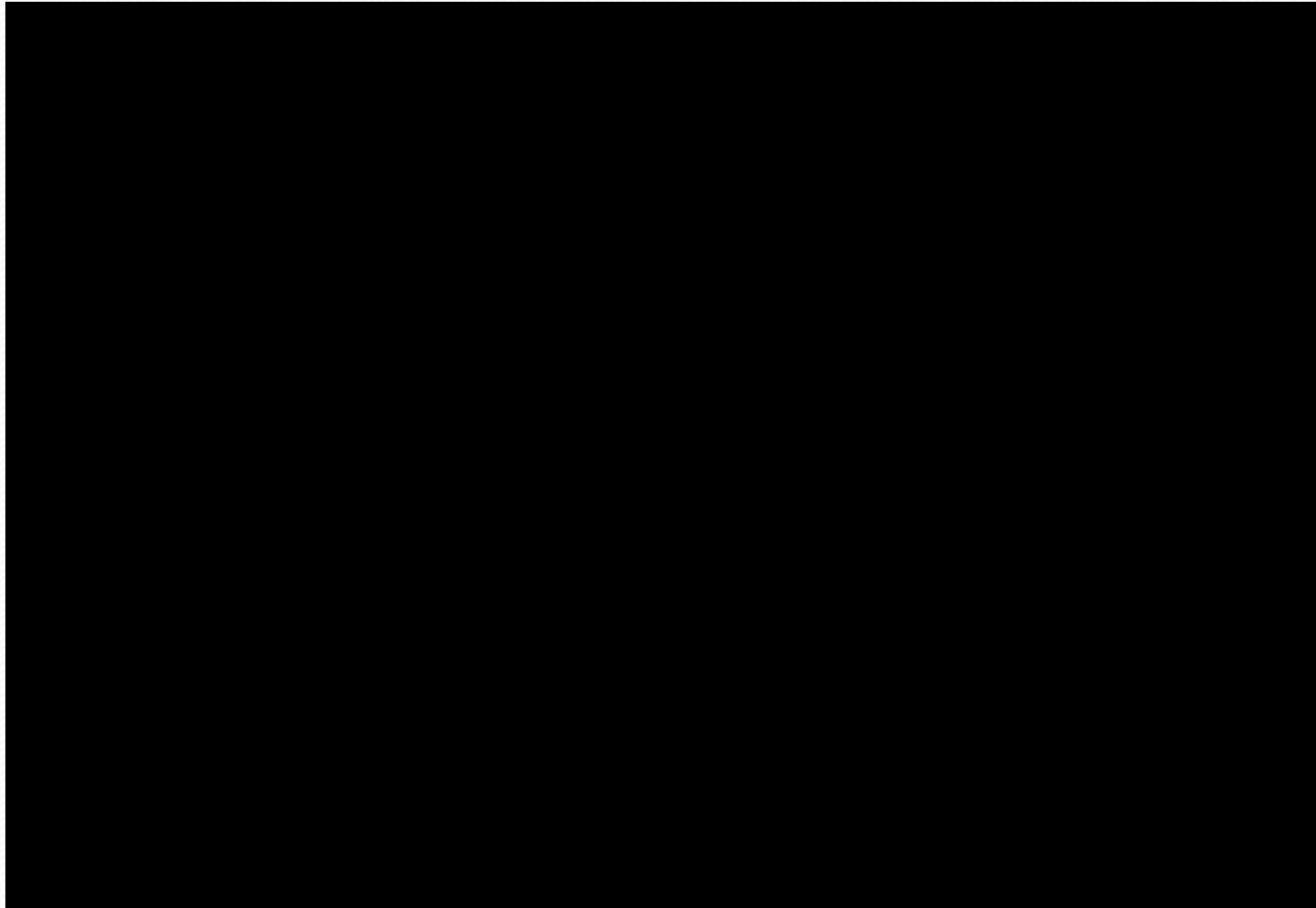
Baseline	Aim
<p data-bbox="436 571 1187 654">Mrs B has nodded and shaken her head in response to a question</p> <ol data-bbox="571 798 1153 1284" style="list-style-type: none">1 <i>Is your name X [correct name]?</i> of self.2 <i>Is your name Y [incorrect name]?</i>3 <i>Are you a woman?</i>4 <i>Are you a man?</i>5 <i>Do you live in [London]?</i>6 <i>Are you married?</i>7 <i>Are you in bed?</i>8 <i>Are you in a chair?</i>9. <i>Are you wearing glasses?</i>10. <i>Are you standing up?</i>	<p data-bbox="1220 571 1780 742">To explore if Mrs B is able to consistently answer closed biographical and environmental questions</p>


Programmes 1





Programmes 2 - adapting





How you make
assessment meaningful
to the family?



Goal Setting



Goals based around your relative could include:

- Knowing what medications they are taking and why
- Knowing how to connect and programme the feeding pump
- Knowing how to switch off the sound of monitors
- Knowing how to suction a tracheostomy
- Knowing how to apply splints
- Feeling confident to take them outside
- Knowing how to clean their mouths



Goals around you might include:

- **Knowing how to talk about what has happened to my relative with others**
- **Dealing with my grief and sense of loss**
- **Knowing how to get a good night sleep**
- **Maintaining links with friends who want to support me**
- **Dealing with all the phone calls and agreeing on how and when to communicate**
- **Delegate tasks to other family members**
- **Obtaining counselling support**
- **Taking time out to do the things I like to do, e.g., swimming, gardening**
- **Being able to care for myself**



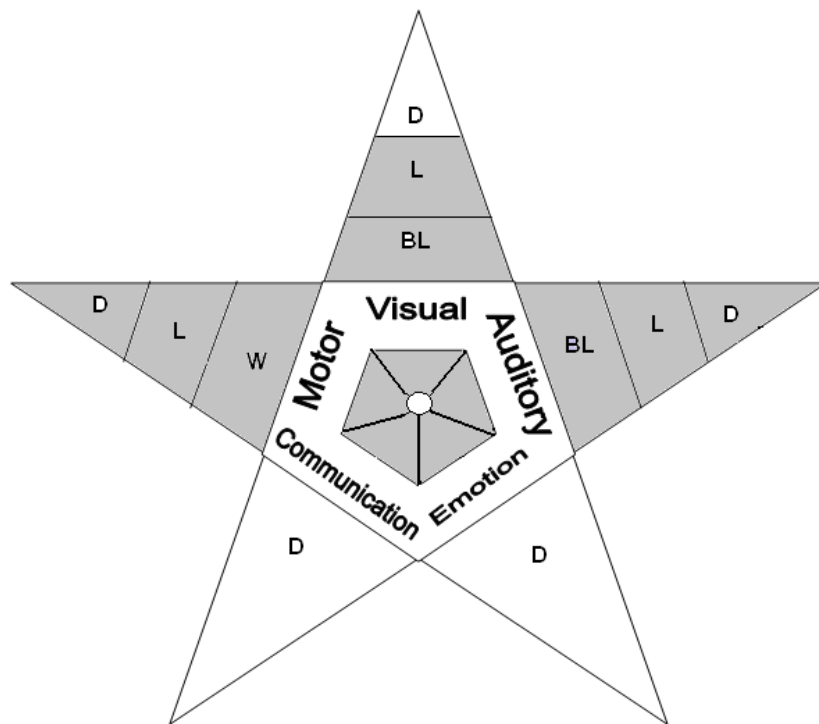
Goals for your family may include:

- Preparing your children or other family members for visiting
- Co-ordinating visiting so that your relative is not over-tired
- Helping them understand how they can help you and your relative
- Talking to your children's school
- Ensuring you have family time



Presenting reports and holding meetings

Visual schematic of an initial STAR assessment outcome



Key


R = Reflexive

W = Withdrawal

BL = Brief localisation

L = Localisation

D = Discrimination



How you make
assessment meaningful
to the treating team?



Insiderness

Takes account of your feelings, interested in your mood, how things are for you on the inside (eg feeling uncertain or scared)

Uniqueness

Treated as an individual, a person with your own particular likes, dislikes, fears and priorities.

Togetherness

Feeling connected to other people who share your experiences and interests; a sense of belonging, community and connection to others

