



MEDICAL STABILIZATION FOR ANOREXIA NERVOSA: PUTTING ORDER TO THIS DISORDER

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Objectives

- Understand the different types of Eating disorders.
- Identify patient populations at risk for Anorexia Nervosa.
- Understand hospital based medical stabilization for anorexia nervosa performed by Multidisciplinary team.
- Identify common complications of Malnutrition due to anorexia nervosa and the intervention of Registered Dietitian.
- Identify 2 of the responsibilities of the psychiatric social worker in disposition planning.
- Identify 2 barriers to access eating disorder treatment for CHLA population.

Eating Disorders

Anorexia Nervosa

Bulimia Nervosa

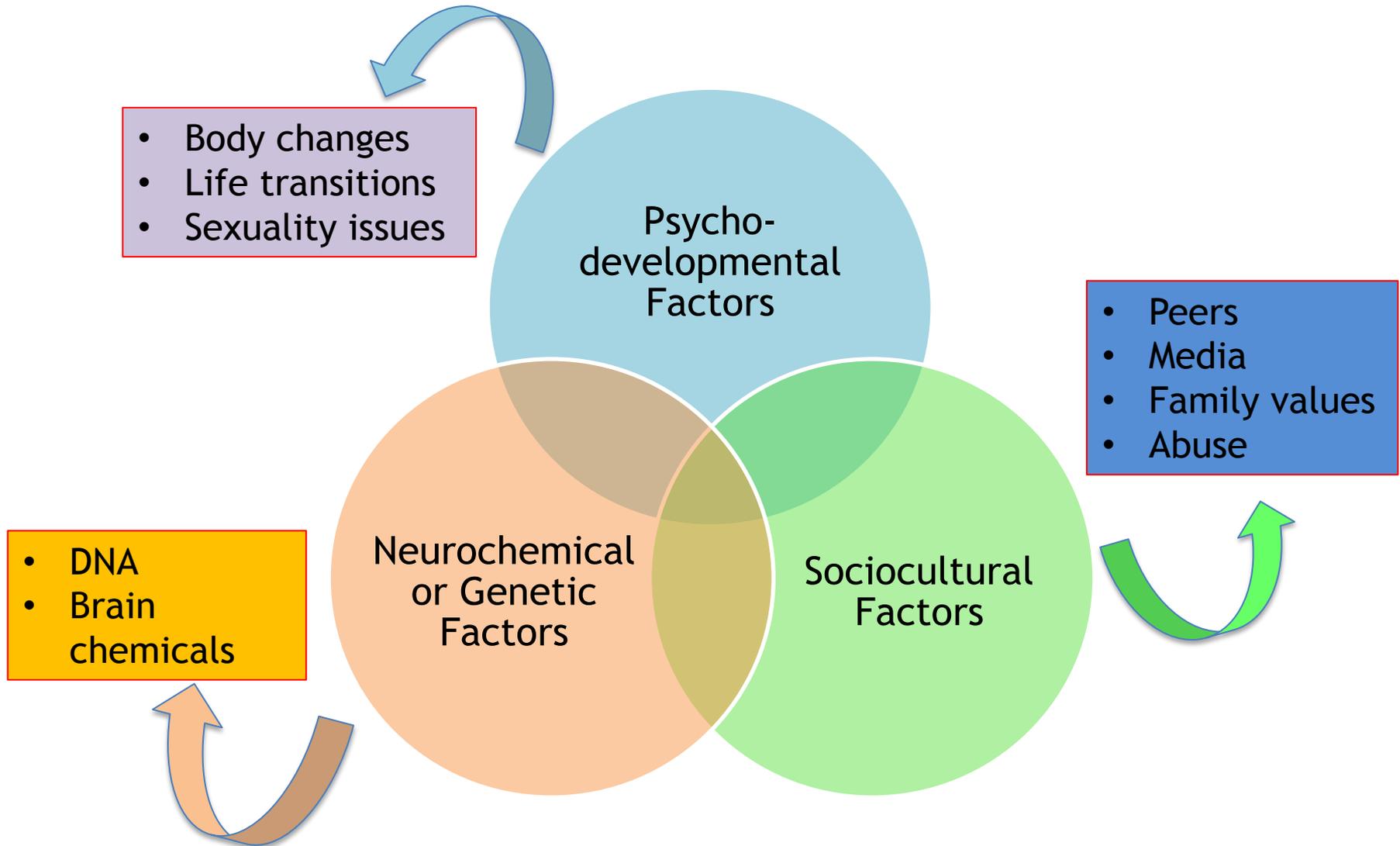
Binge eating disorder

Avoidant/restrictive food
intake disorder (ARFID)



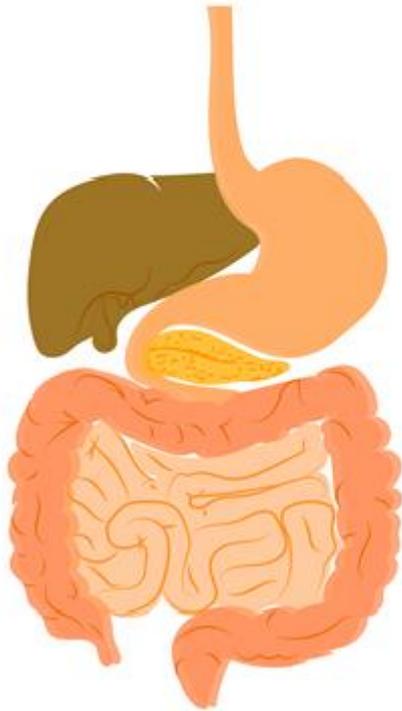
Picture: www.brainscape.com

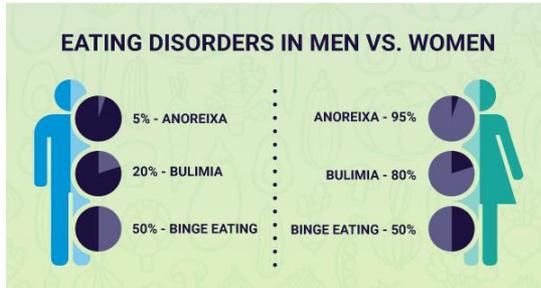
Etiology



Imbalance of gut flora?

Intestinal Microflora

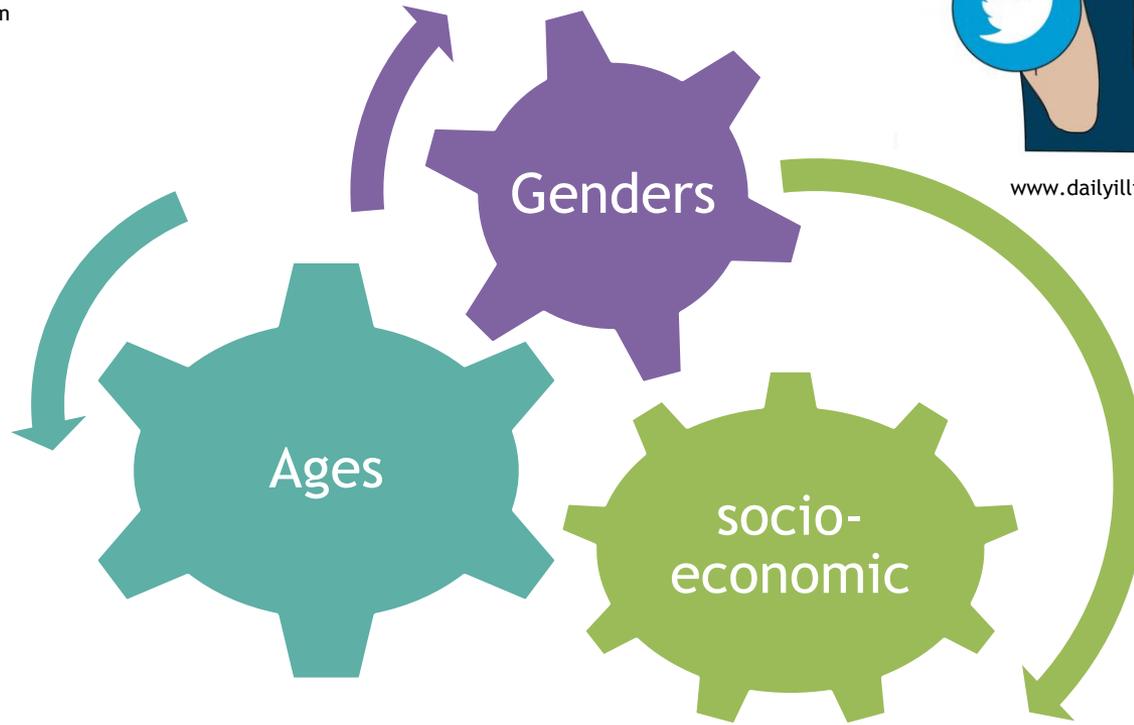




www.therecoveryvillage.com



www.dailyillini.com

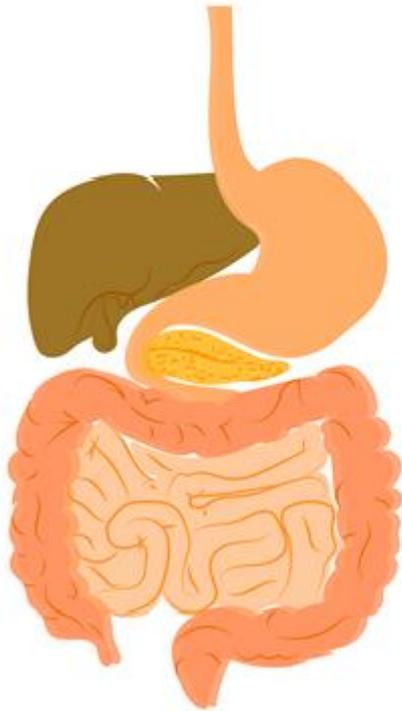


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Imbalance of gut flora?

Intestinal Microflora



Causal or Causative → to be determine



<https://topclues.in/question/which-came-first-the-chicken-or-the-egg/>



- **1.0% to 4.2% of women** have suffered from anorexia in their lifetime.
- Anorexia has the **highest fatality** rate of any mental illness.
- Only **one third** of individuals struggling with anorexia nervosa in the United States **obtain treatment**.

- Malnutrition resulting from chronic starvation → erratic and irregular eating behaviors.
- Complications → Cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, neurological, endocrine, pulmonary, hematologic.
- The primary risk factors for developing medical complications in anorexia nervosa are the degree of weight loss and the chronicity of the illness.

An illustration of a woman with dark hair, looking thoughtful with her hand to her chin. The background features a clock and a calendar, suggesting a focus on time and organization. The text 'PUTTING ORDER TO THIS DISORDER' is overlaid on the image.

PUTTING ORDER TO THIS DISORDER

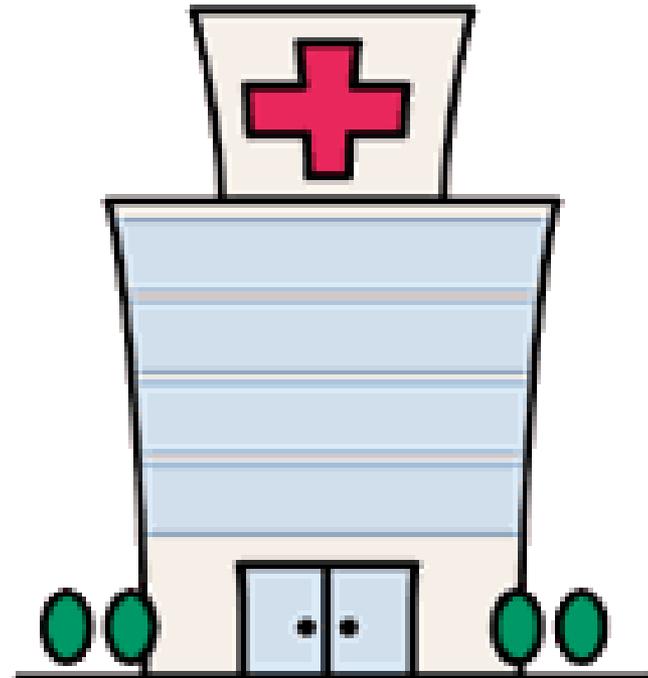
CHLA entry points

Inpatient Setting

Outpatient Setting

Acute Transfers

Emergency Room



What do we do at CHLA?

4 STEPS

1. Rule out → PMD, Outpatient therapists
2. Acuity → Based on Criteria for admission
3. Evaluation → Multidisciplinary
4. Plan of care



What do we do at CHLA?

STEP 2. Criteria for admission: 2 or more

- <75% IBW
- Food refusal
- HR < 50 bpm during the day and <45 bpm at night
- Systolic pressure <90 mmHg
- Orthostatic changes
- Hyponatremia (<96 degrees F)
- Arrhythmia



What do we do at CHLA?

**Medical
stabilization is
the Goal**

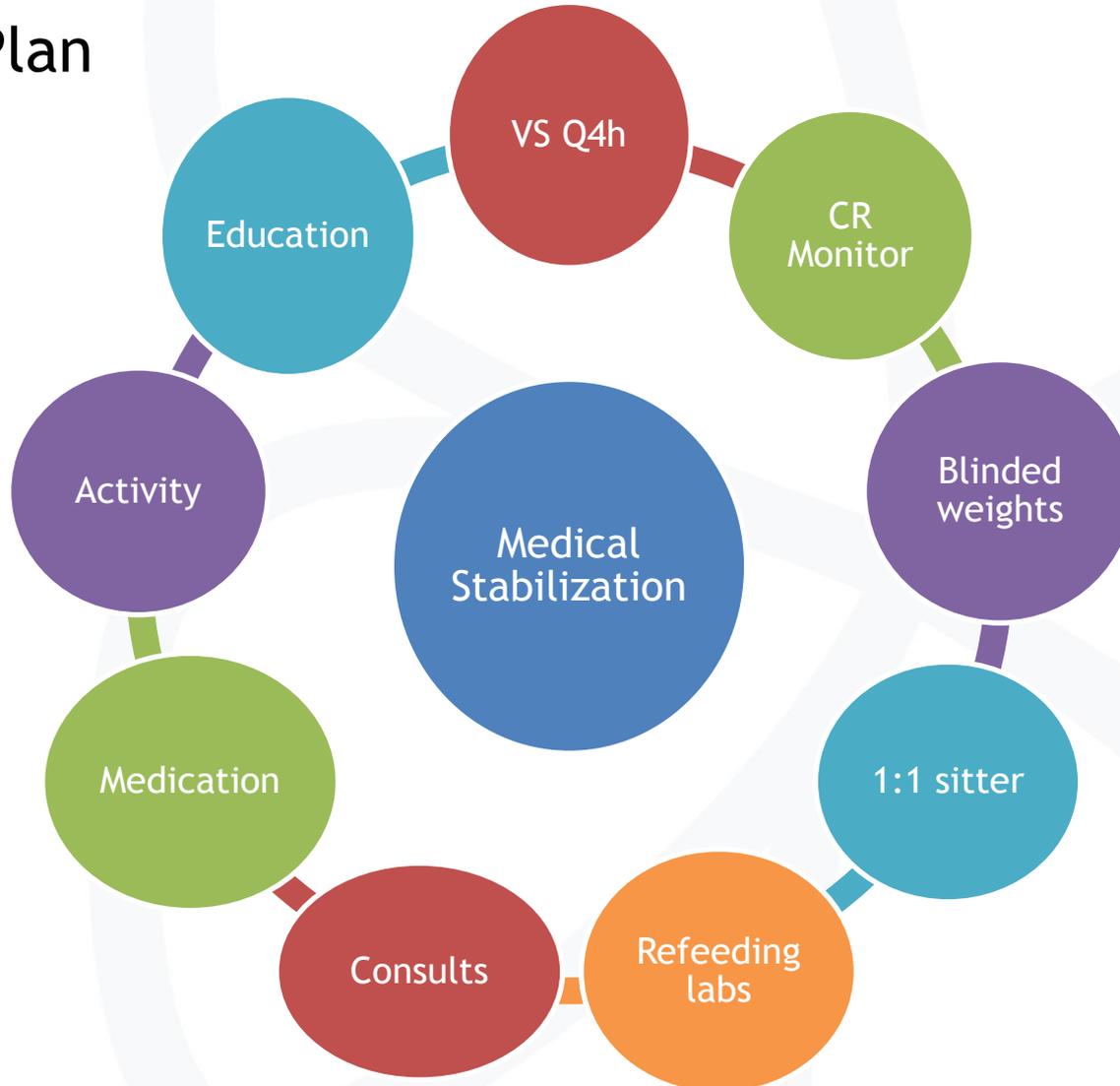
**STEP 3. Multidisciplinary
team evaluates patient →**

**Medical team, Adolescent
Medicine, Psychology and
Clinical Nutrition Services**



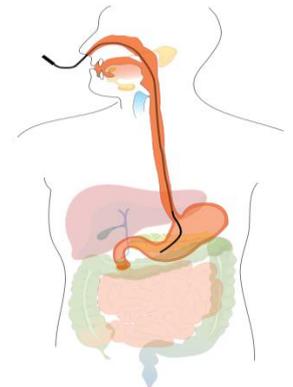
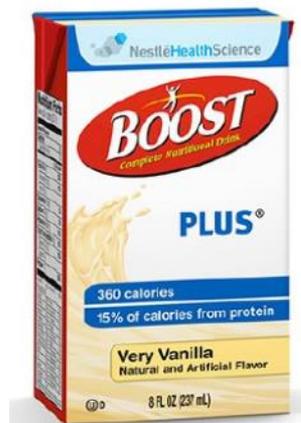
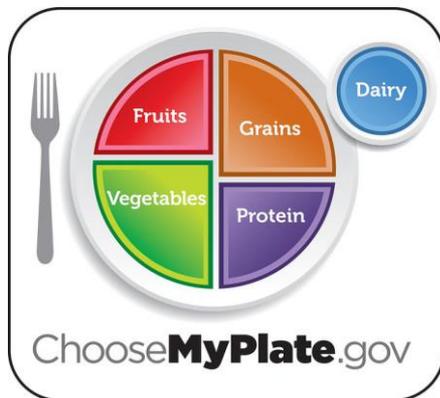
What do we do at CHLA?

STEP 3. Medical Plan



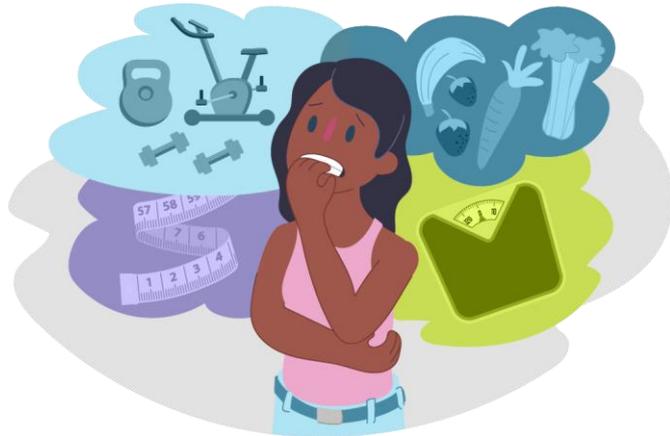
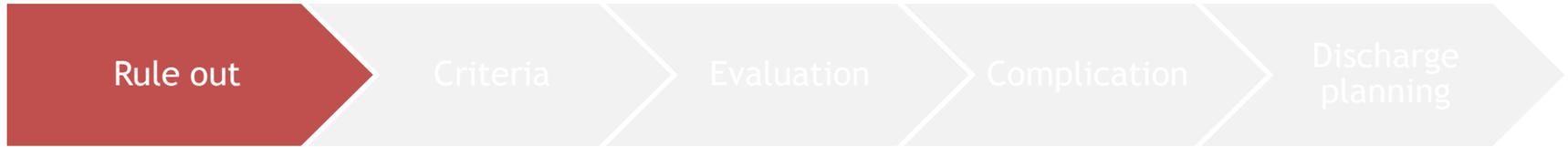
What do we do at CHLA?

- Food is now referred to as the **Medicine**
- All nutritional discussions should only be conducted with clinical team
- 3 choices: Eat, boost plus PO or NGT



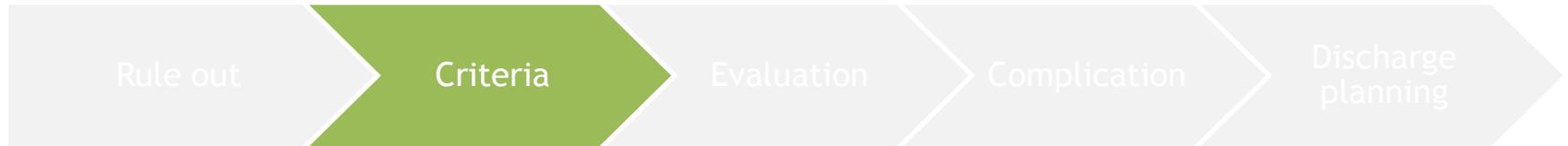
What do we do at CHLA?





CG -> 13 yo female. No prior medical history. PMD referred her 2/2 concern of continued wt loss in 3 months.

1 week prior admission → seen by a psychologist → no Dx was given.



- <75% IBW
- Food refusal
- HR < 50 bpm during the day and <45 bpm at night
- Systolic pressure <90 mmHg
- Orthostatic changes
- Hyponatremia (<96 degrees Fahrenheit or 35.5 Celsius)
- Arrhythmia

UBW 150lbs (68.18 Kg) → 55Lbs (25 Kg)
in 3 months → %IBW 69.7

8 months before admission (**restrictive eating** (PMD visit, religion) as well as increased physical activity).

Temp 36.9 C

BP: 105/65

HR 68 bpm

Respiratory rate 12 breaths/ min



- Decreased PO and intentional weight loss.
- 8 months before admission (PMD visit, religion) as well as increased physical activity).
- Counting calories.
- CG began to focus just on losing weight.
- Exercises 4-5 times per week (1 hour).
- Denied vomiting, binge eating.

Rule out

Criteria

Evaluation

Complication

Discharge
planning

- Anthropometrics

- BMI: 14.97 Kg/m² (<3 %ile Z score: -2.2)
- Arm circumference: 19 cm (<5% Ile)



- Clinical:

- Lytes: K 3.2, Mg 2.2, phos: 3.8, Urine Ketones 15, glucose 60
- Dizziness, feeling cold
- LMP ~3 months ago



P: Moderate Malnutrition



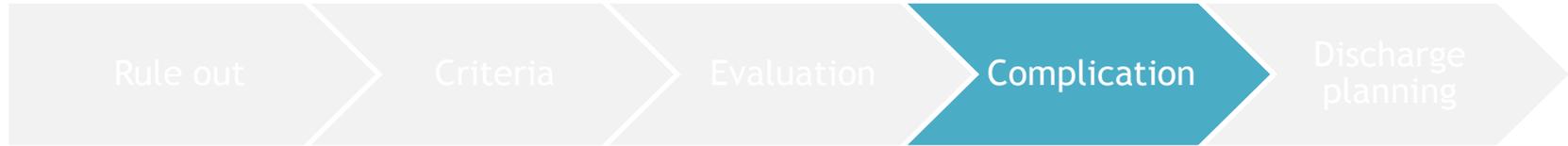
E: related to disordered eating and excessive exercise

S: as evidence by drop in wt 40% in 8 months, BMI 14.97 Kg/m² Z-score - 2.2, muscle wasting, inadequate intake of food compared to estimated needs.



- Goals:
 - Prevent weight loss, then 0.14-0.2 Kg/d of weight gain
 - Optimize Nutrient intake
 - Prevent refeeding syndrome
 - Inter-professional collaboration
- Intervention:
 - Monitor weight
 - Initiate 1600 Kcal (advance 200Kcal each day) -> Goal 2400 Kcal
 - Monitor meals (time)
 - Oral supplement for every Kcal no consumed
 - No media
 - Supplementation: Thiamine, MVI, Lytes as needed
 - Therapies (pet, art, music, sunshine)

What happened to CG?



Superior mesenteric artery syndrome (SMAS)

WHAT? duodenum is compressed between the aorta and the superior mesenteric artery CAUSING partial or complete blockage of the duodenum.

WHY? loss of the mesenteric fat pad → weight loss

SYMPTOMS: abdominal pain, fullness, nausea, vomiting, and/or weight loss.



What do we do at CHLA?

STEP 4.

Plan of care/Discharge Planning

Who is involve? → CCC with adolescent team, Psych, SW to determine best placement

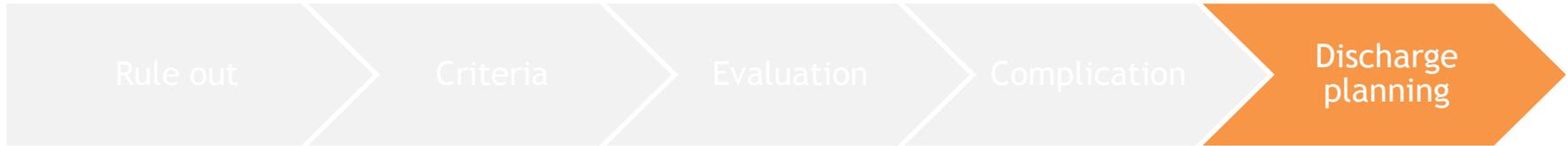
Limitations → Insurance inquiry for inpatient eating disorders programs, behavioral health programs and dietary resources

Criteria →

- BMI & Medical Stablization: Provider United
- Direct Transfer ?
- Available resources
- Solidified access to outpatient plan
- Buy-in

Case Study

What happened to CG?



- Medical clearance to continue attending school.
- Directly admitted for **medical stabilization**.
- Her family had a **challenging time**
- The cause and drive of her eating dx was largely **influenced by religious practices**.
- Required a significant amount of **psychoeducation**
- CG was accepted to **UCLA Inpatient Eating Disorder Program**, the length of time was determined by their clinical team.



Barriers to treatment

- Medical stabilization
- BMI
- Insurance access: Center for Discovery, Monte Nido, Eating Disorder Los Angeles, Bhc Reason's
- DMH recognition of eating disorder treatment
- Gap times in access to untrained clinicians
- Timeline alignments with outside facilities
- Family contribution
- Family competency
- Cultural Awareness
- Psychosocial stressors
- Child Protective Services

Take Home Messages

- Safety first
- Safety net
- CHLA -> is not a full comprehensive behavioral eating disorder program
- CHLA -> we do our absolute best to provide our families with preparation for what they're up against.

We must first re-nourish
the body before we can
re-train the brain

RD

Eating Disorder
thoughts are not
true, though they
seem so

RD

Not getting your
nutrition is not an
option

RD

We wouldn't let someone
with Diabetes not take their
insulin. Similarly, we won't
let you not take your food
medicine

RD

Nothing the
parents did or
didn't do could
have prevented the
Eating
Disorder. The stars
just aligned

RD

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- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics *Pocket Guide to Eating Disorders*, Second Edition Second Edition.
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- Herpertz-Dahlmann, B., Seitz, J., & Baines, J. (2017). Food matters: how the microbiome and gut-brain interaction might impact the development and course of anorexia nervosa. *European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*, 26(9), 1031-1041. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00787-017-0945-7>

Thank you!

QUESTIONS?