

‘Painting the Voice’

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'L'écriture est
la peinture de
la voix.'

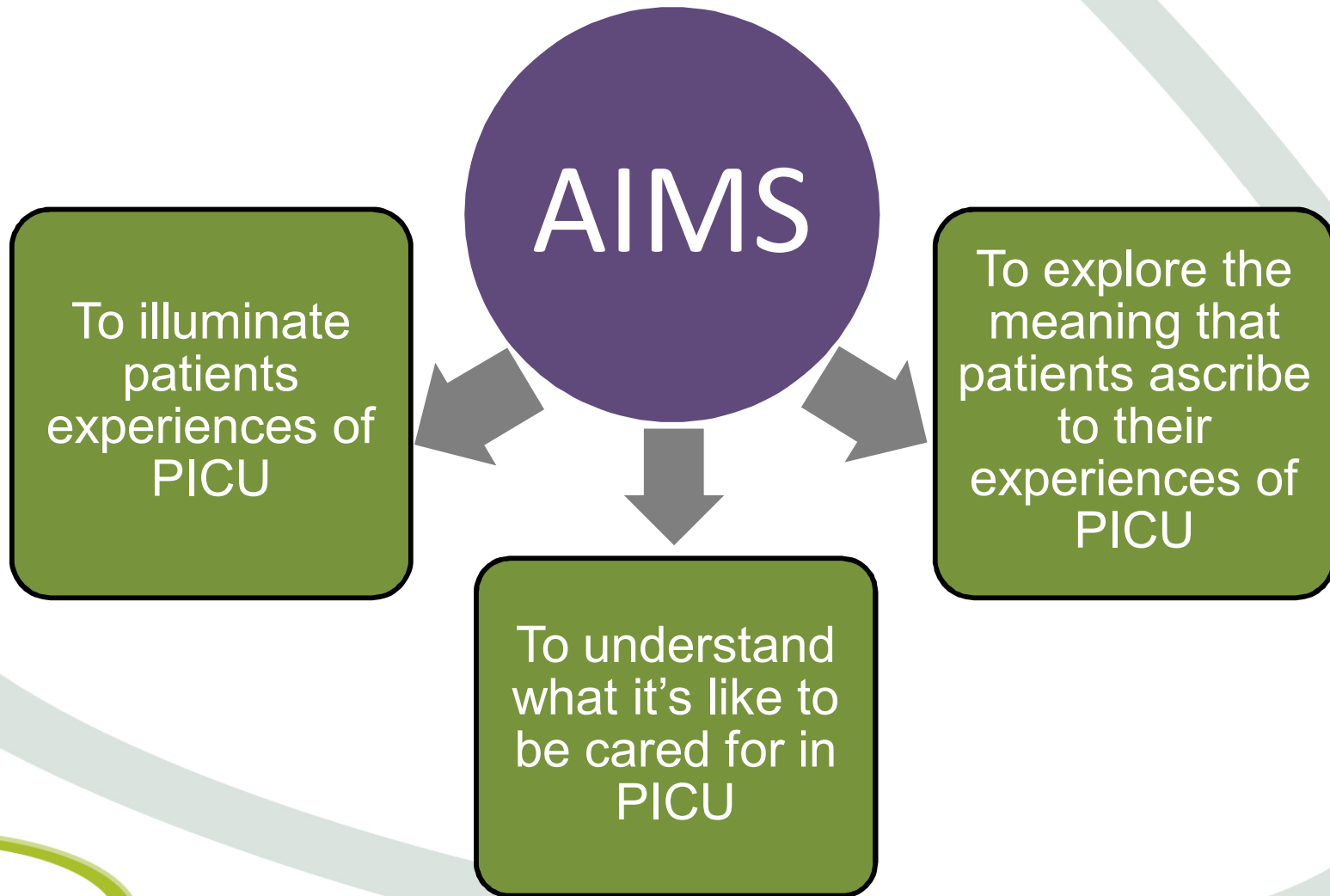
'The writing is
painting the voice.'

Voltaire

Purpose of Research

- Very little evidence and understanding about what it is like to experience intensive care
- An absence of research that examines patient perception and satisfaction with services

Project Aims



Why is this important?

- National context of patient feedback and quality services
- Emotional wellbeing of patients

Elements of the project

Phase 1
Framing the research

Phase 2
Patient observation sessions within PICU

Phase 3
Patient interviews on the open wards

Phase 4
Notes, data and analysis

Findings - 1

EMOTIONAL RESPONSES TO BEING CARED FOR IN PICU

- ❖ Anxiety, disbelief and fear
- ❖ Disorientation/confusion
- ❖ Gratitude
- ❖ Frustration, boredom and hostility

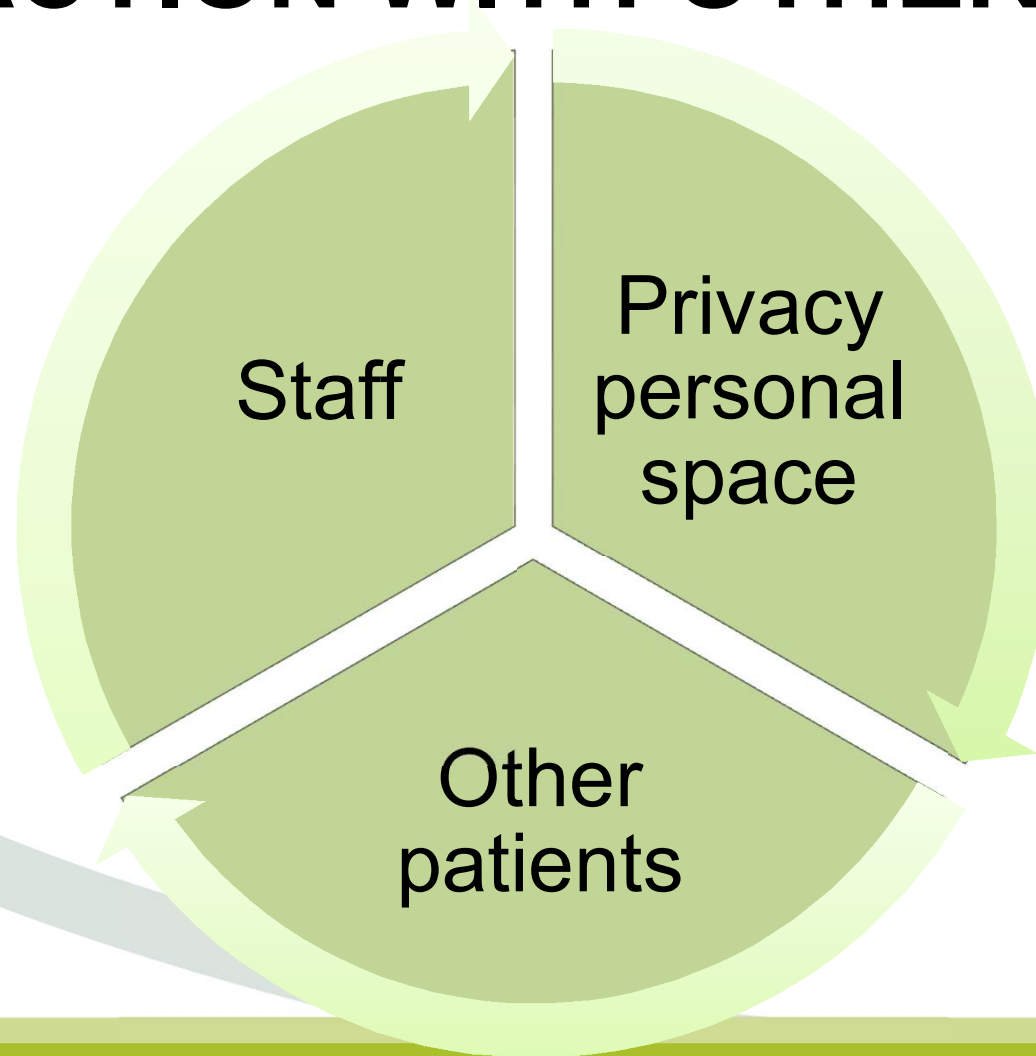
Findings - 2

IDENTITY

- ❖ Role of self
- ❖ Role of significant others
- ❖ Role of life experience
- ❖ Gender
- ❖ Through illness

Findings - 3

INTERACTION WITH OTHERS



Findings - 4

SEARCH FOR MEANING

- ❖ Search for familiarity
- ❖ Search for meaning
- ❖ Surreal/disbelief
- ❖ Boundaries/meaning – impact

Findings - 5

CHALLENGE

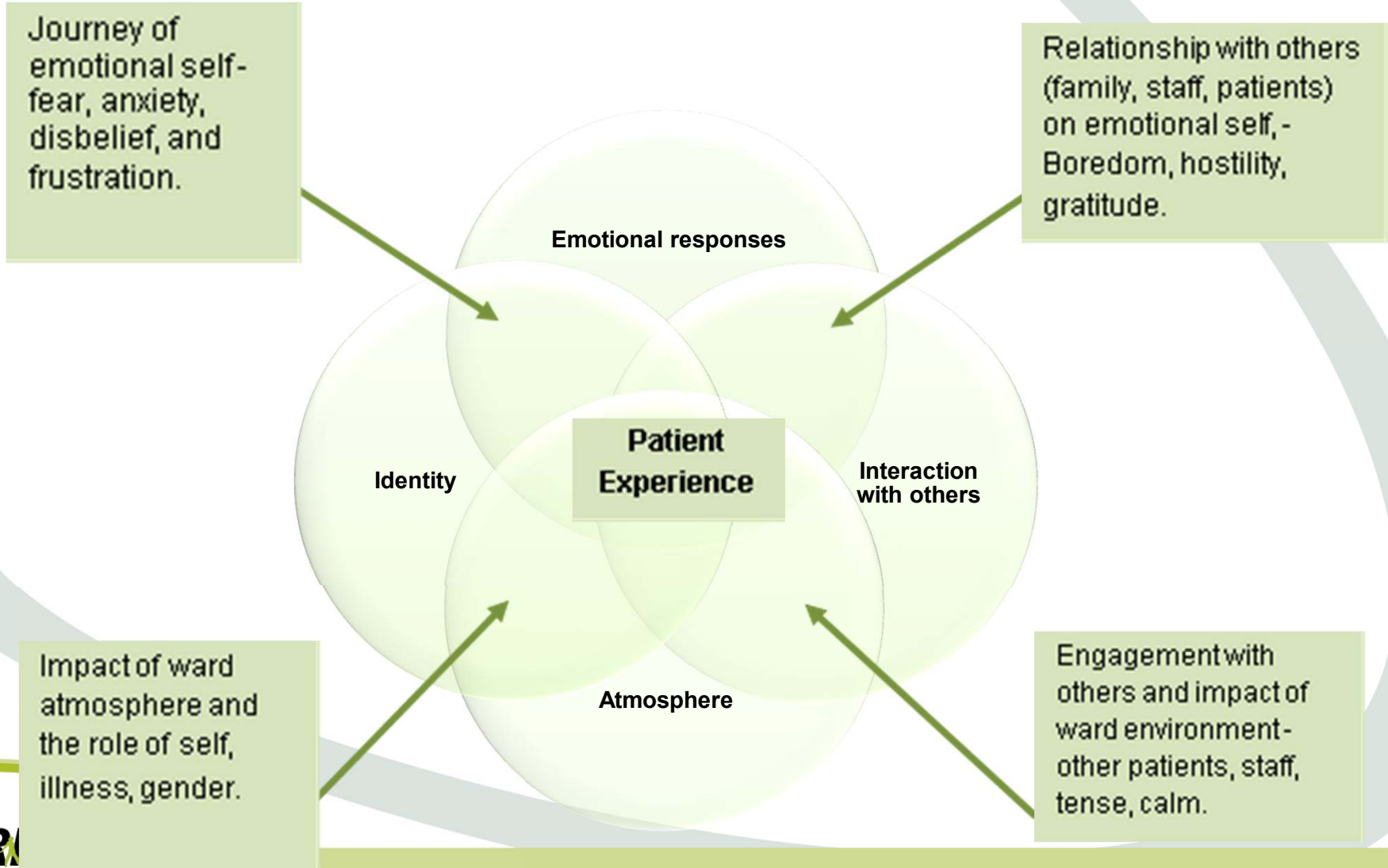
- ❖ Boundaries/Restrictions
- ❖ Choice - lifestyle

Findings - 6

SYMPTOM REDUCTION (RECOVERING)

- ❖ Staff encouragement
- ❖ Process of recovery

A collective picture



Implications for Practice

The emotional wellbeing of patients

- Mental health assessment consider the emotional impact of being admitted to the PICU.
- Care plans take this into account.
- De-briefing following any restraint or seclusion.
- Identify specific needs or wishes of each patient.

Implications for Practice

cont...

The nature and impact of sedation, seclusion and care interventions

- The PICU environment should support orientation to time, place and person in all areas including the seclusion suite, treatment room, bedrooms and other individual spaces.

Implications for Practice

cont...

Role and function of the ward community



- Generic assessment should consider what impact admission has on the ward community and individual patients, acknowledge within care plans for each patient.
- Explore the role of peer support workers within adult acute inpatient services.

Questions ?

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