

YOUNG AND UNDERSTUDIED

Psychological Wellbeing in Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer

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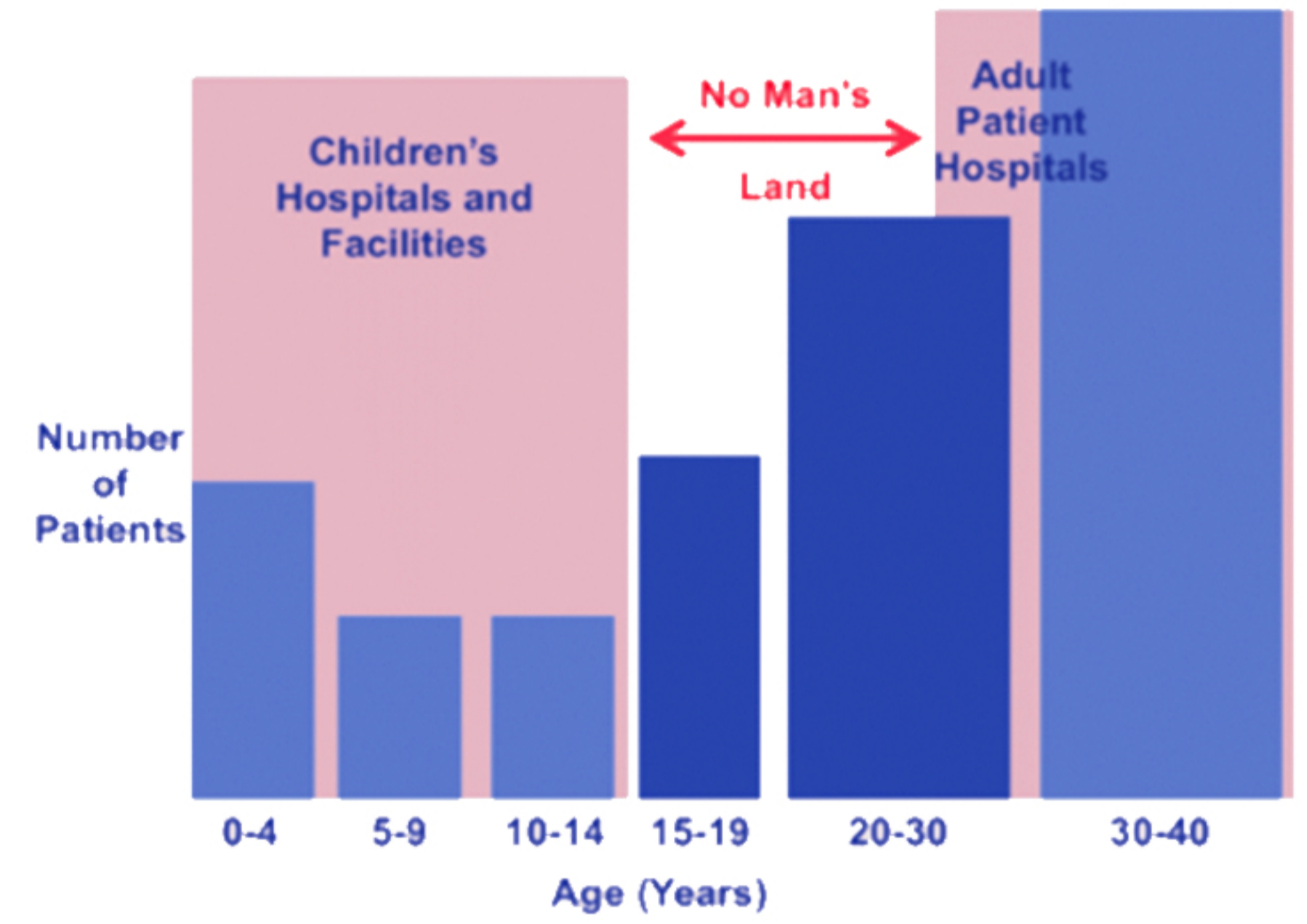
BACKGROUND

Cancer diagnosis and its treatment ...

... may compound the normative developmental challenges in Adolescents and Young Adults (AYAs) and negatively affect the health-related quality of life (HRQoL) of this young generation.

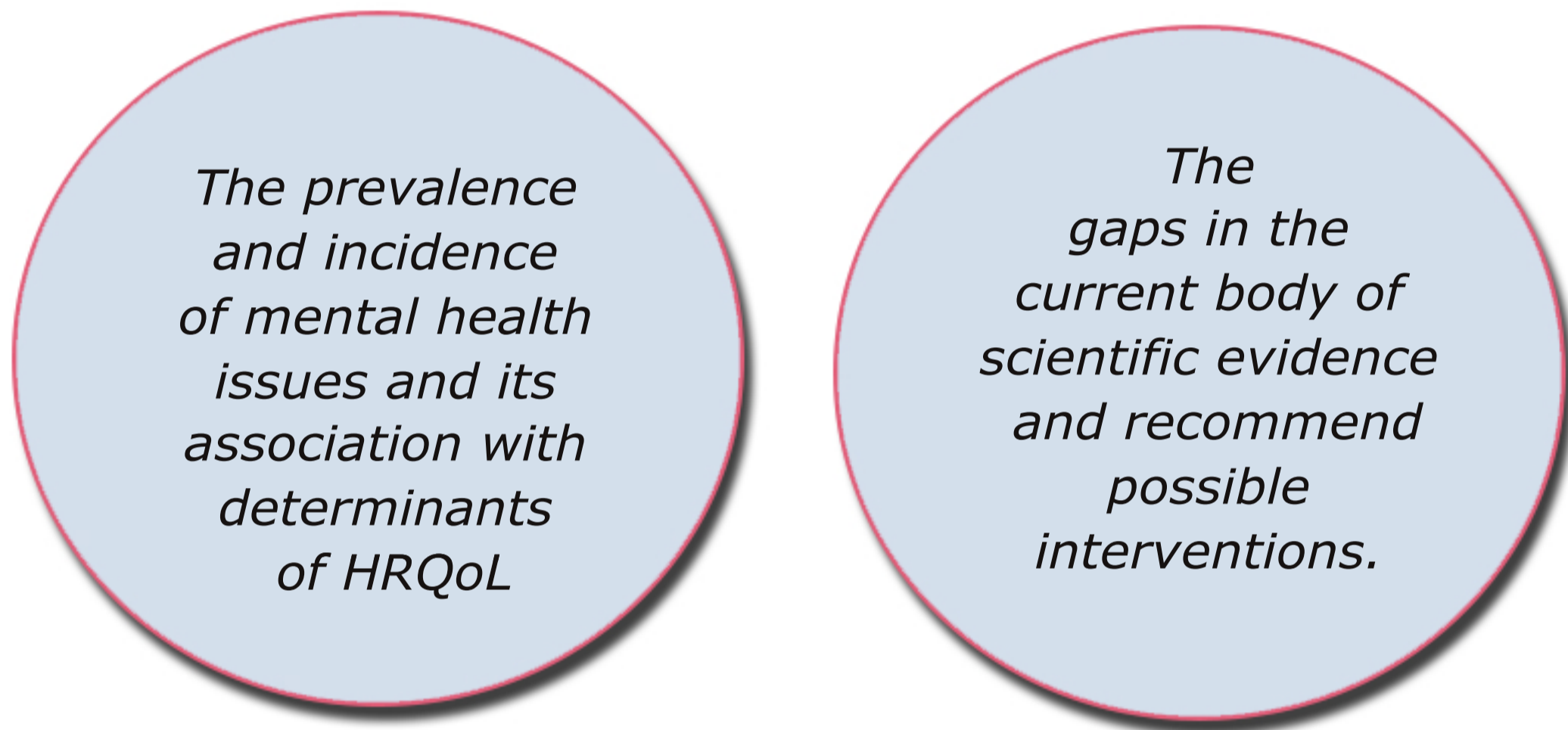
Adolescence and early adulthood are distinct and complicated developmental stages defined by profound physiological and cognitive changes as well as major psychological shifts.

90,000 AYAs are diagnosed with cancer in the first year
3X More people are diagnosed in the second 15 years of life than the first.



AIMS

TO IDENTIFY,



METHODS

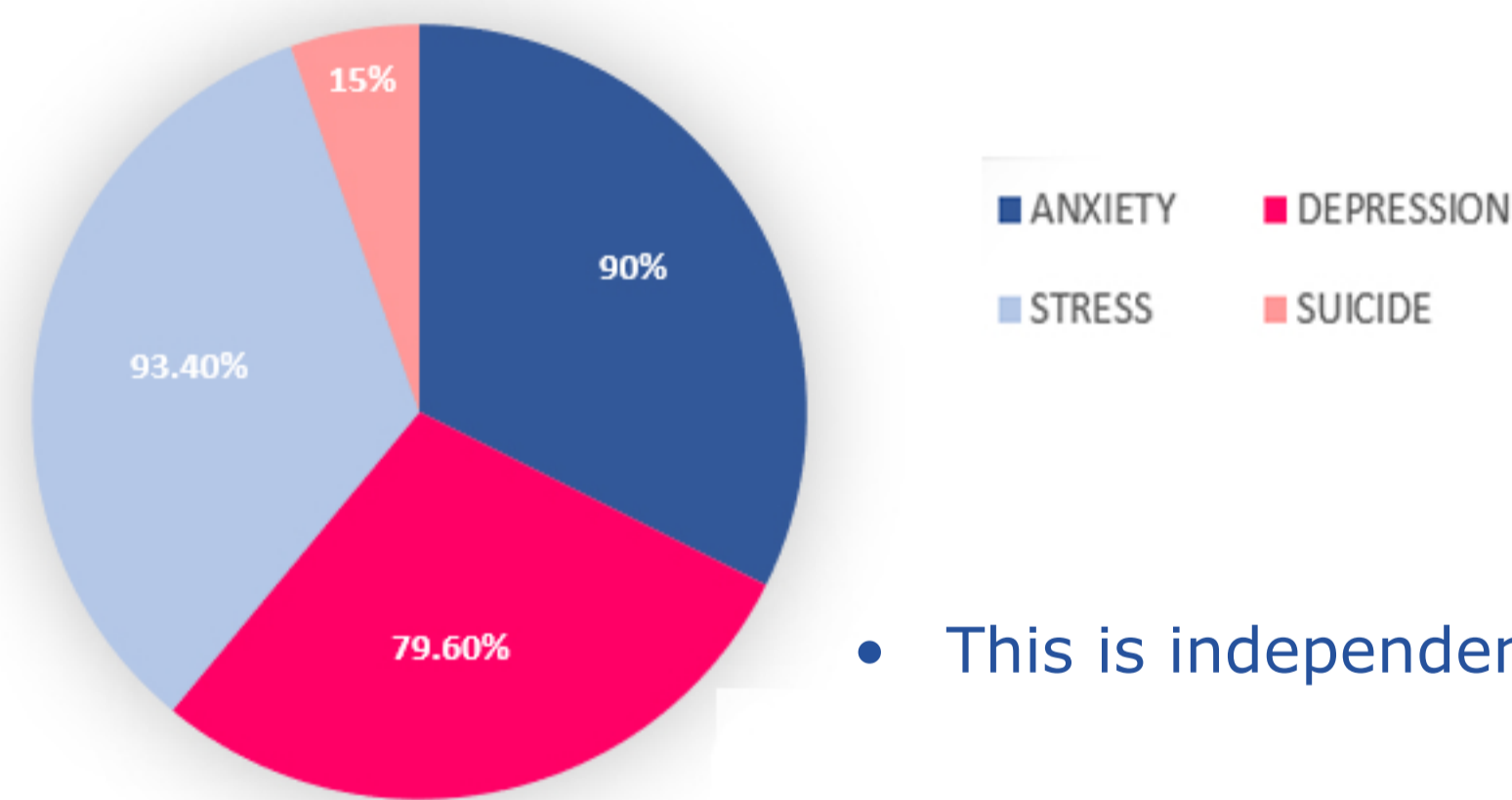
Longitudinal and cross-sectional studies were identified via *electronic databases*. All the databases are distinctive interfaces, necessitating modifications to the search protocols.

Furthermore, timeframe; from January 2011 to April 2021, language: English, human studies, peer reviewed, primary research, adolescents and young adult populations, cancer/malignancies were among the criteria applied in the databases.

The Economic and Social Research Council Methods Programme was used to perform a narrative synthesis.

RESULTS

66.6% papers indicated increased prevalence of psychological disorders.



12 STUDIES from 7 COUNTRIES

• This is independent of cancer type and stage.



Factors contributing to increased prevalence

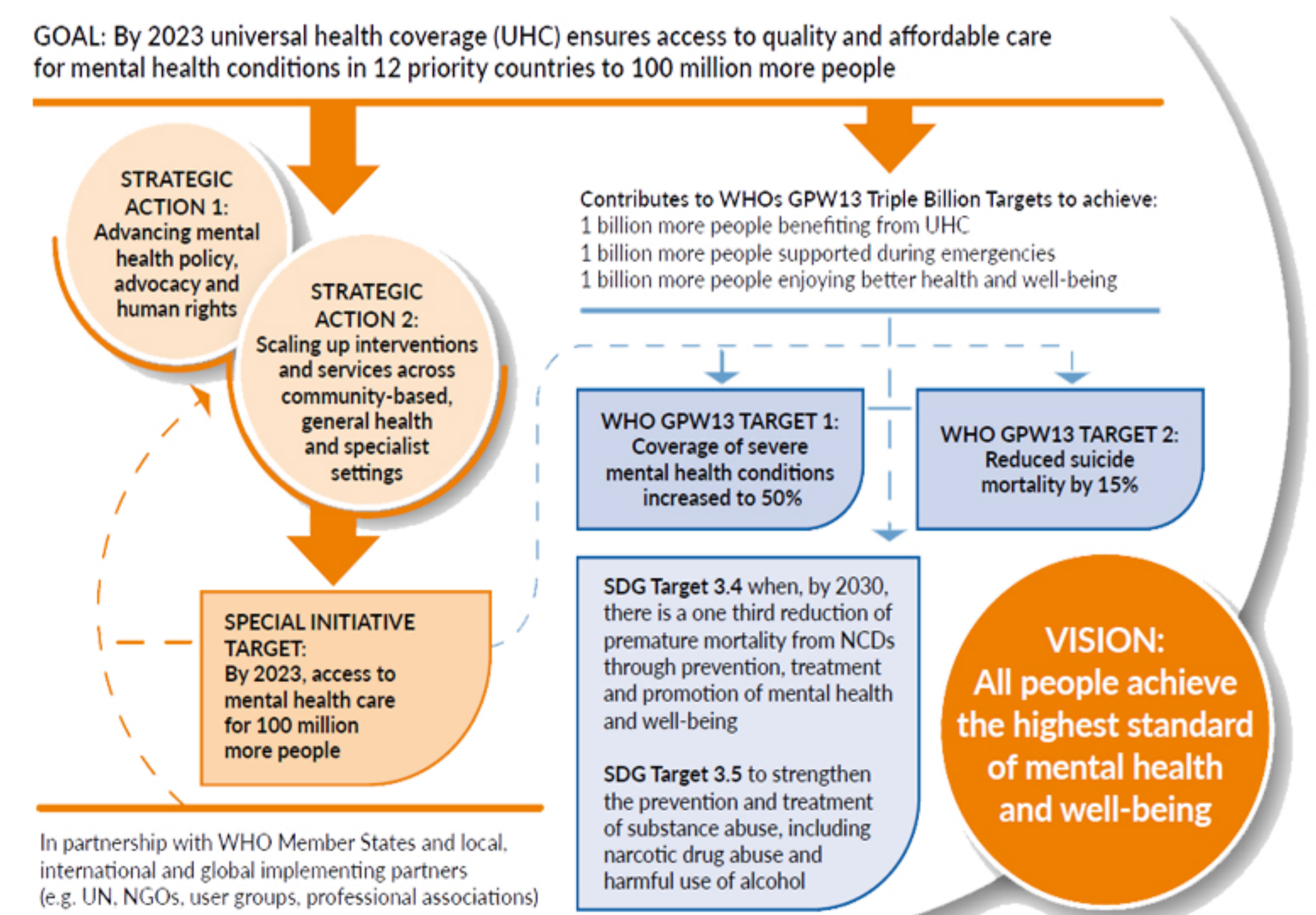
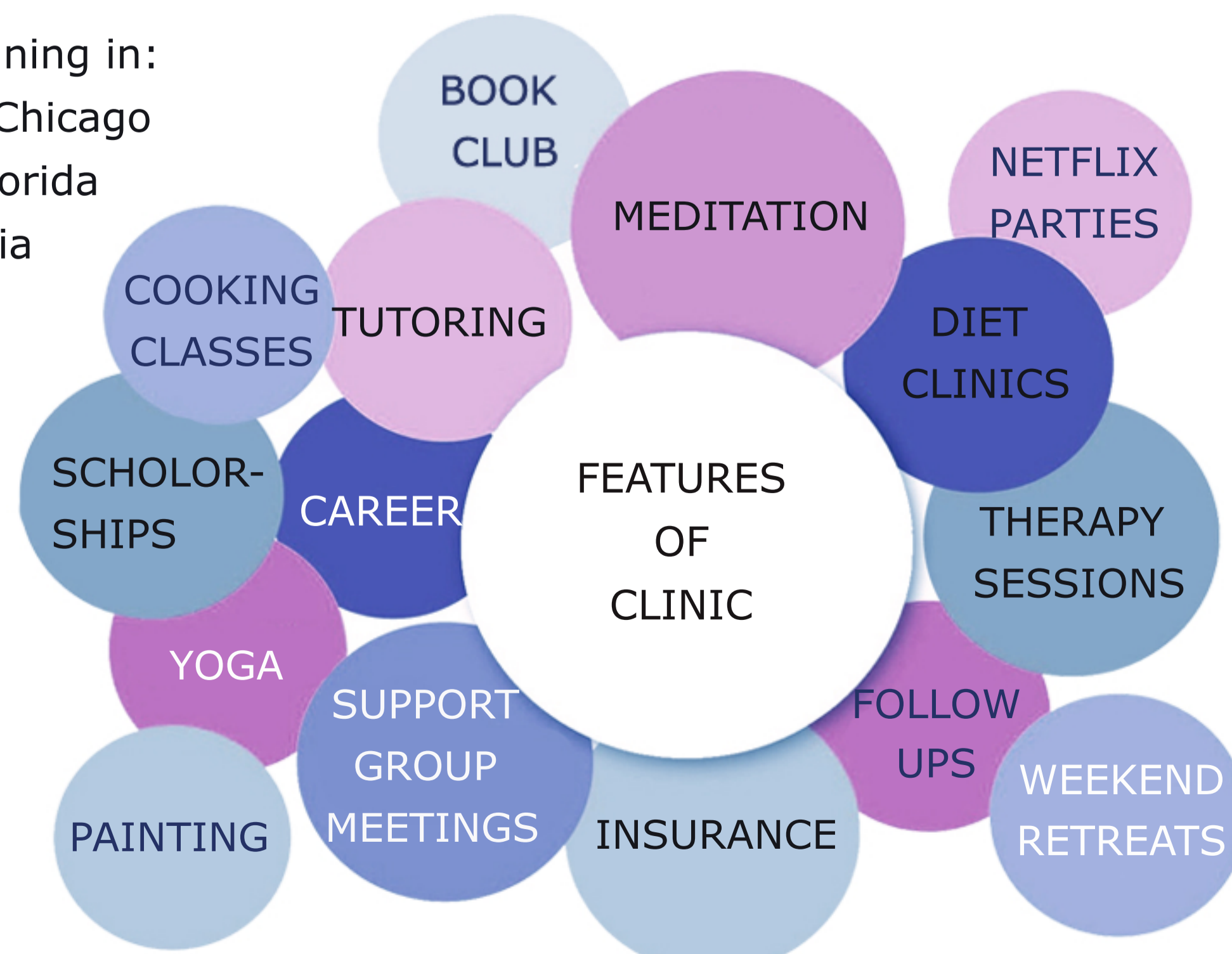


RECOMMENDATIONS

Mandatory AYA Clinics should be introduced at all Cancer institutions with major focus on the needs of the patients.

Successful programs are running in:

- Northwestern University, Chicago
- Moffitt's Cancer Center, Florida
- Stanford Hospital, California
- MD Anderson, Texas



REFERENCES:
NIH 2021. Cancer Stat Facts: Cancer Among Adolescents and Young Adults (AYAs) (Ages 15–39). In: National Cancer Institute: Surveillance, E.a.E.R.p. (ed.). USA: National Institute of Health.
WHO (2019) 'WHO Special Initiative for Mental Health (2019-2023): Universal Health Coverage for Mental Health', Available: The World Health Organisation.
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