



Western Cape
Government

Health

BETTER TOGETHER.

THROUGH THE EYES OF AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST:

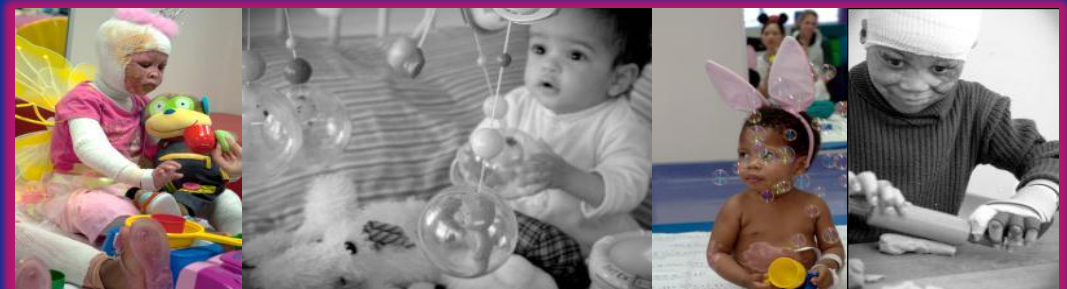
THE PATHWAY TO RECOVERY FROM A BURN INJURY

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Date: 24/05/2018



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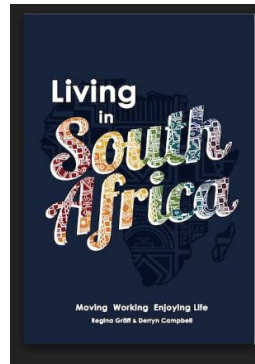
Prevalence of burns injuries

1227 Trauma unit presentation

760 Burns unit admissions

21 ICU admissions

1440 OT scar management, reintegration





Distribution of burn by cause



Type of burn:

Hot water burns:

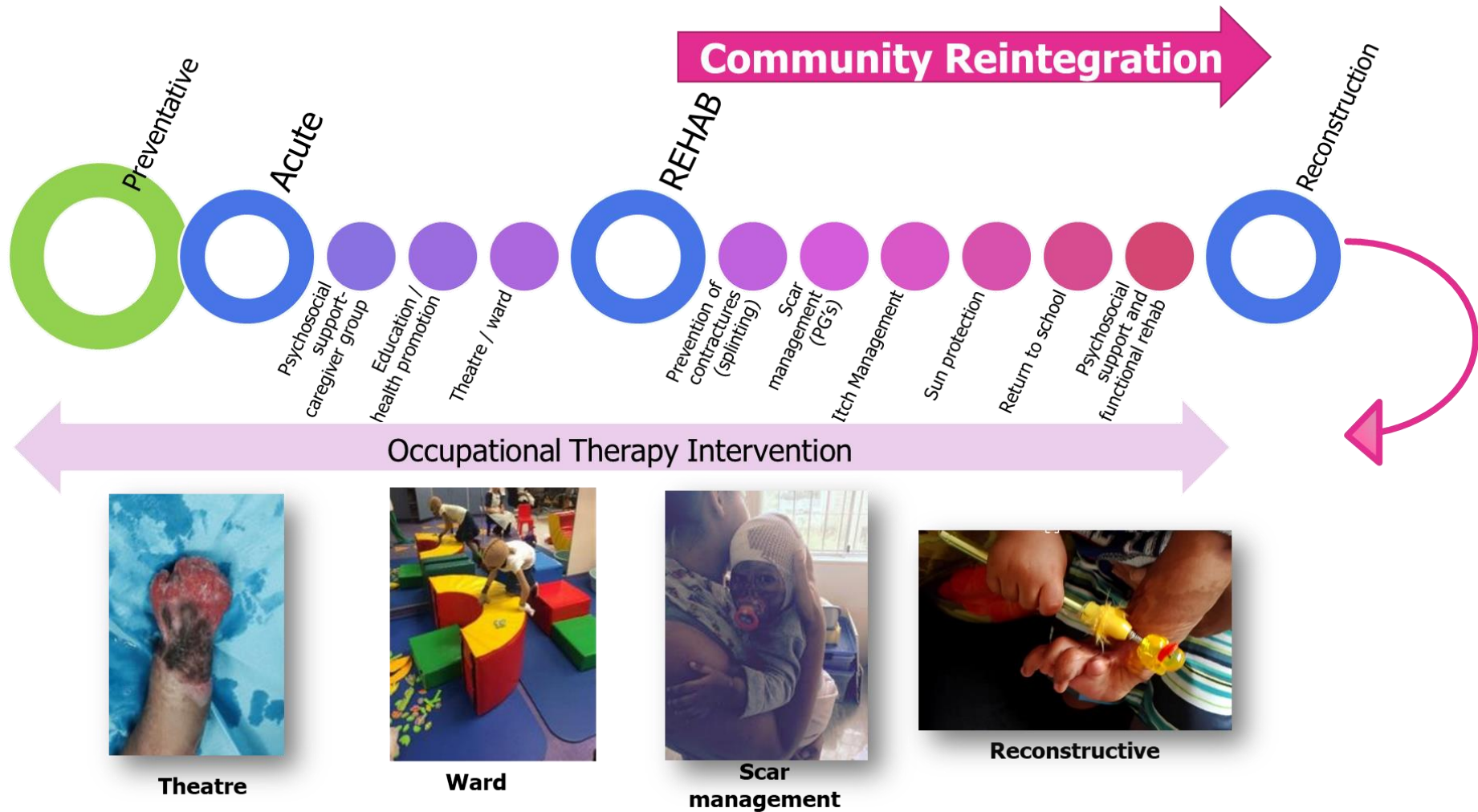
76 % Mechanism of injury differs



Flame, electrical, and chemical burns:

Smaller but more devastating

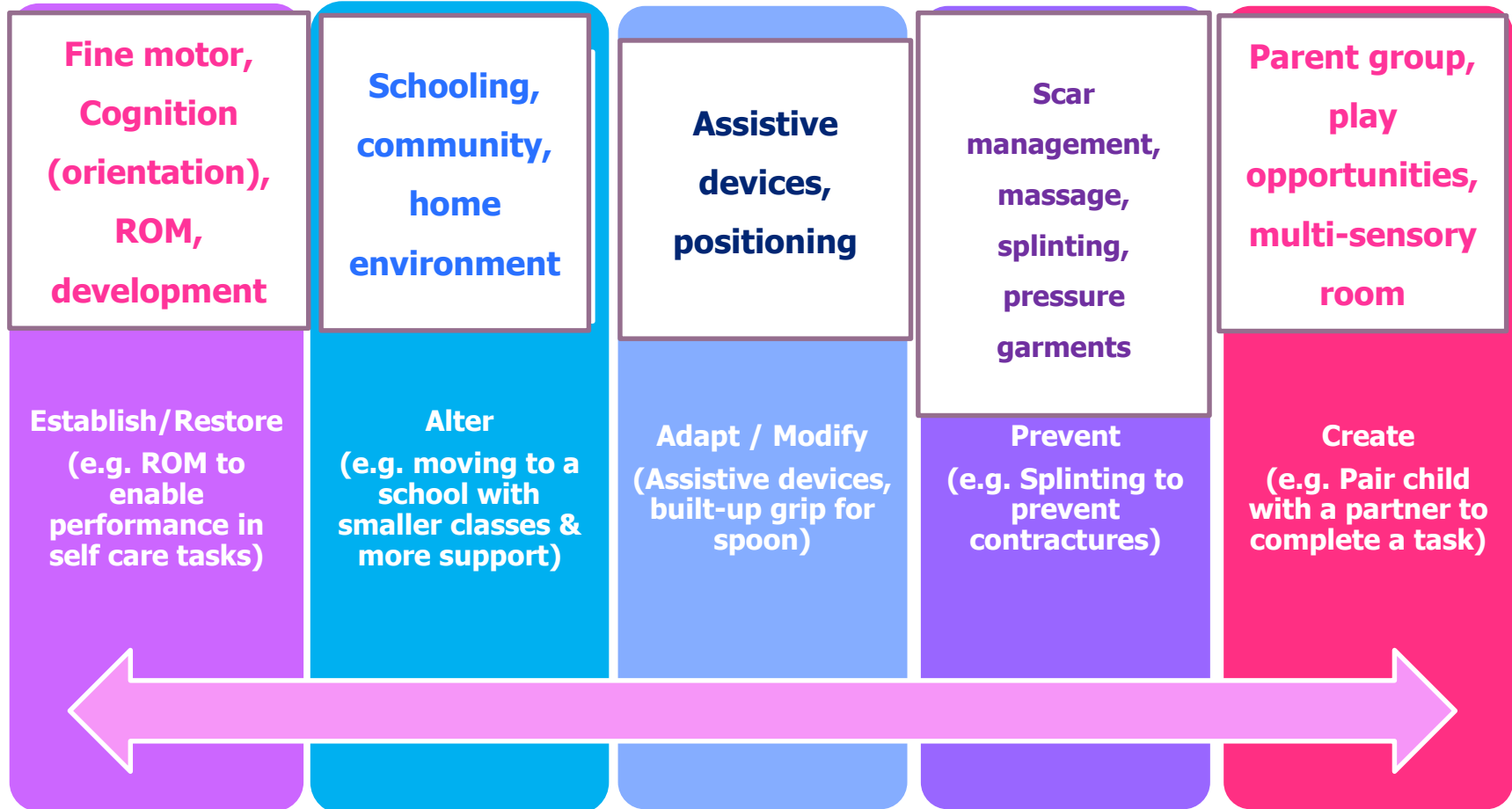
The pathway to burn recovery



Intervention Strategies

(Dunn, McClain, Brown & Youngstrom, 2003)

The aim is to facilitate Occupational Performance! Some examples:



How do we approach the patients?

Knowing yourself .. Limitation

- **BE MINDFUL** of differences – own bias, be sensitive
- **Environment** they all ready at disposition : acute medical dx we need to focus on..
But we try and equip with skills to prevent similar occurrence – eg : inside outside water, bath/shower vs bucket, electricity or paraffin
 - Addressing environmental needs : position, making more safe preventing,
- **Cultural beliefs** – respecting beliefs , stigma
- **Social Hierarchy** that exist
- **Wellbeing of carer** : altered role, loss income, fear she has ,
- **Accessibility, Resource allocation** : Red Cross vs community , Social systems they can tap into
- **Empowering** – Parents , Staff , Patients, Colleagues - experts in own right – variety diagnosis – request specific intervention. The power in empowering was makes this most rewarding of all.

Thank you



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