

The Psychosocial  
Consequences of Medical  
Illness

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## Not The Journey You Expected

- ⊗ **The Diagnosis....what now?**
- ⊗ **Life changes**
- ⊗ **Grief and the medically compromised child**

## Caregivers

- ⊗ Emotional/Physical impact
  - ⊗ Burnout
  - ⊗ Isolation
  - ⊗ Mental health
- ⊗ Impact on the family
  - ⊗ Siblings
  - ⊗ Marriage



You know you are a  
Special Needs Mom  
when 99% of your  
Facebook Check-in's  
are at hospitals,  
clinics and  
speciality centers.

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## The Child

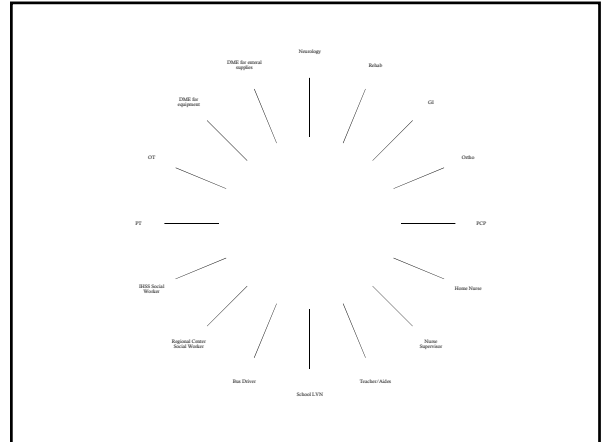
- ⊗ Family System: ages 0-5 years
  - ⊗ “The foundation which shapes child’s behavior, health, happiness, growth and development”

## The Manageable Years

- ⊗ Support

## Where are they in their journey?

Parents and Children  
Vs  
Developmental milestones



## Who is On Your Team?

It's like a team sport, just not as fun

The weakest link

## How can we help?

- Empathy
- Listen
- You WON'T have ALL the answers and that's OK

Questions?