

Exploring the symptomatology of adults with acute leukemia

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Disclosures

- No disclosures or conflicts of interest to report

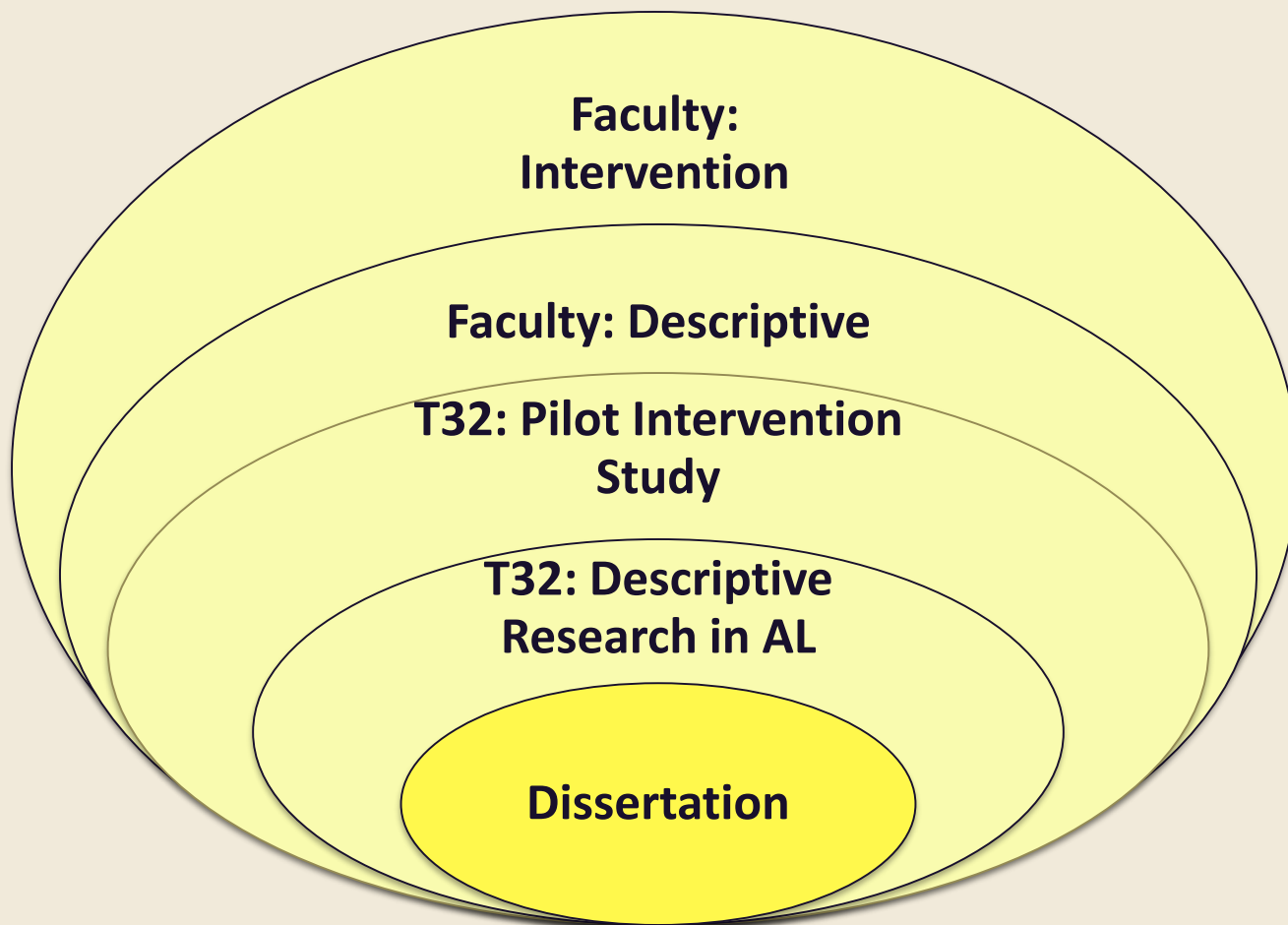
"...unless the direction of science is guided by a consciously ethical motivation, especially compassion, its effects may fail to bring benefit. They may indeed cause great harm."

~Dalai Lama

Introduction



Symptomatology in Patients with Cancer



A Supportive Care Study for Women with Advanced Ovarian Cancer



Purpose:

- To examine the feasibility as well as the effects of the combined intervention of flaxseed oil, fasting, caffeine, and exercise on OC tumor growth

Methods:

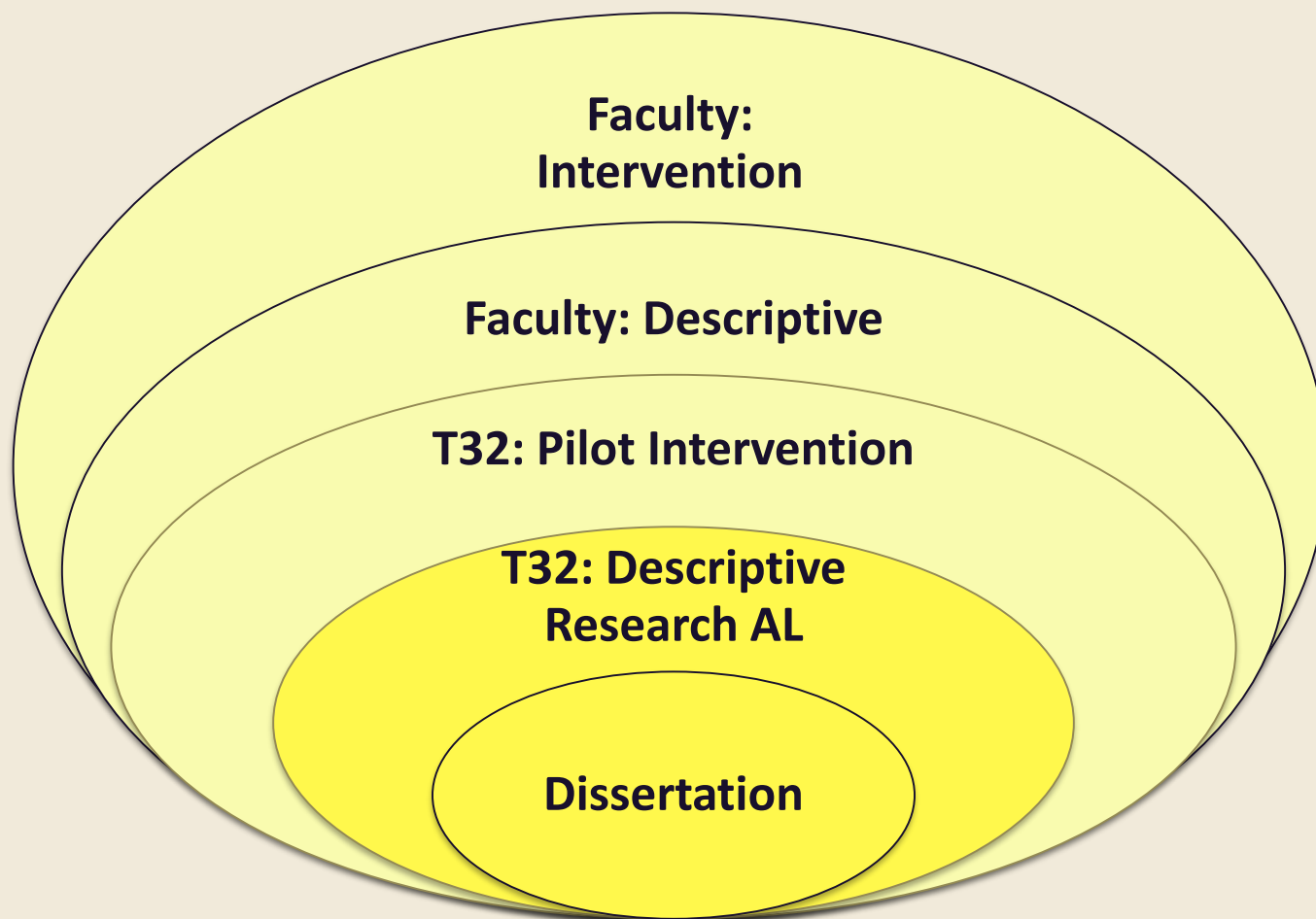
- Quasi-experimental intervention

Findings:

- Efficacy regarding the combined intervention remain unanswered.
- Actively participating in physical activity while receiving treatment may improve: Physical symptoms (peripheral neuropathy), Psychological consequences (mood, stress), HRQoL
- Patients may be fearful about participating in physical activity and thus may need support and encouragement.

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Symptomatology in Patients with Cancer



Acute Leukemia

- Acute Leukemia (AL)
 - Requires immediate and aggressive treatment (Pulte et al 2010; Radaelli,et al. 2004)
 - Long periods of hospitalization (Dohner, et al, 2010; Estey & Dohner, 2006)
 - 60-90% achieve complete remission (Burnett, 2005)
 - Disease relapse occurs in majority of patients within 3 years (Dohner et al, 2010; Chevallier et al, 2011)
 - 5-year survival rate: (Howlander et al, 2012)
 - Acute Myloid Leukemia(AML) = 23.9 %
 - Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia(ALL) = 65.2 %

Consequences of Treatment

- Patients with AL:
 - often experience numerous symptoms (Manitta, et al, 2011)
 - treatment associated complications lead to longer hospitalizations (Redealli et al, 2004; Efficacer et al, 2007)
 - high risk of negative consequences of treatment without any benefit (Redealli et al, 2004; Efficacer et al, 2007)

Symptom Management & Psychosocial needs in Patients with Acute Leukemia

Purpose:

- The purpose of this preliminary study was to better describe the symptom experience of patients with AL across the disease trajectory.

Method:

- Descriptive longitudinal convergent mixed methods

Findings:

- Patients with AL experience multiple concurrent symptoms, distress and decreased HRQoL during treatment
- Long hospitalization and facing the unknown is difficult
- Multidimensional symptom assessment is important



Funding:

STTI Small Grant: June 2012-May 2013

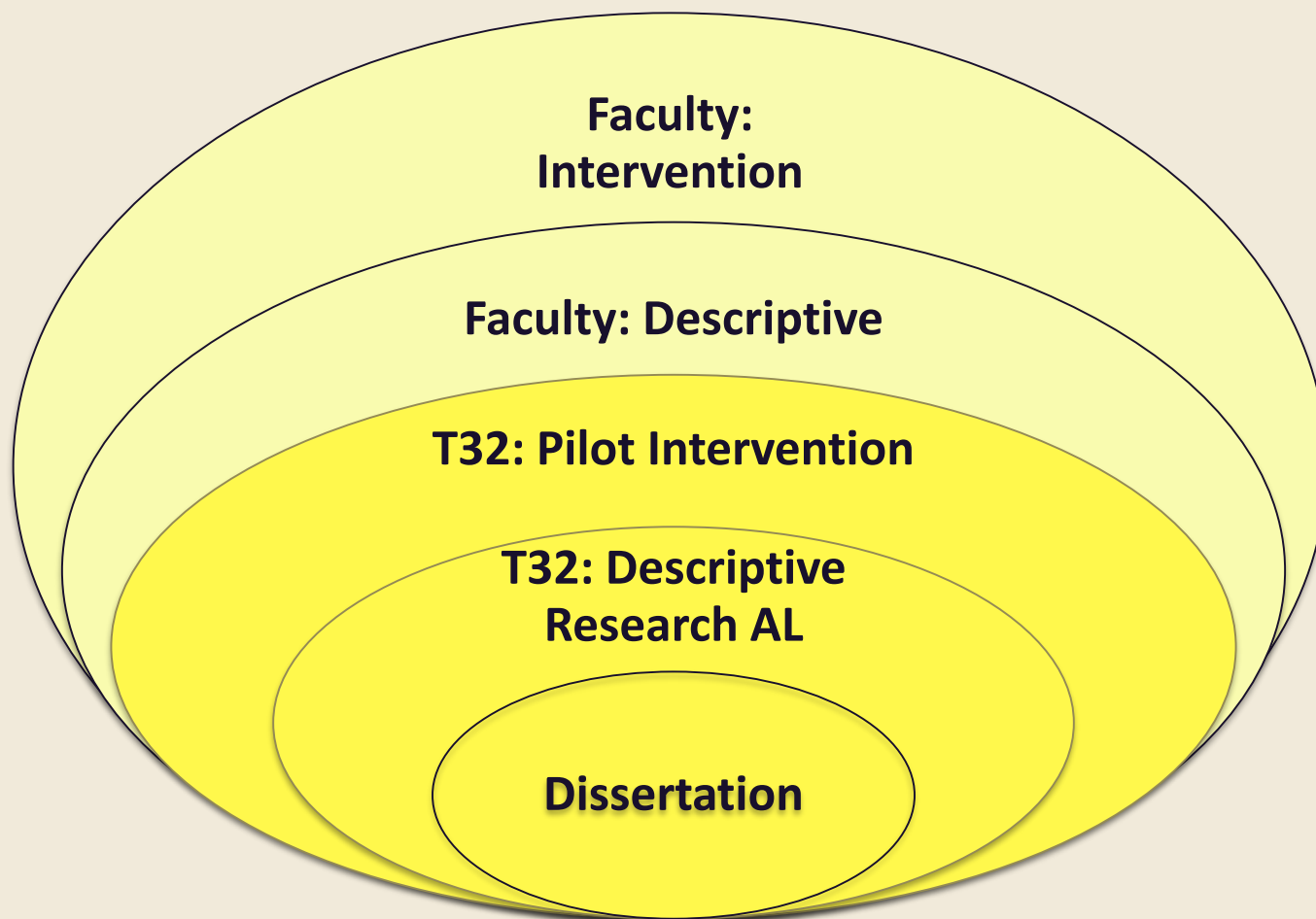
T32NR011972 Interdisciplinary Training of Nurse Scientists in Cancer Survivorship Research 2012-2013

Albrecht, T.A., Boyiadzis, M., Elswick, R.K., Starkweather, A., Rosenzweig, M. (accepted). Symptom Management and Psychosocial Needs of Adults with Acute Myeloid Leukemia During Induction Treatment. *Cancer Nursing*.

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Albrecht, T.A. (2014). Physiological and psychological symptoms of adults with acute leukemia: An integrative literature review. *Oncology Nursing Forum*. 51(3), 286-295.

Symptomatology in Patients with Cancer



Systematic Intervention to Ease Distress in Patients with AL

Purpose:

- To explore the feasibility and potential efficacy of providing STARTED in patients hospitalized for treatment of AL

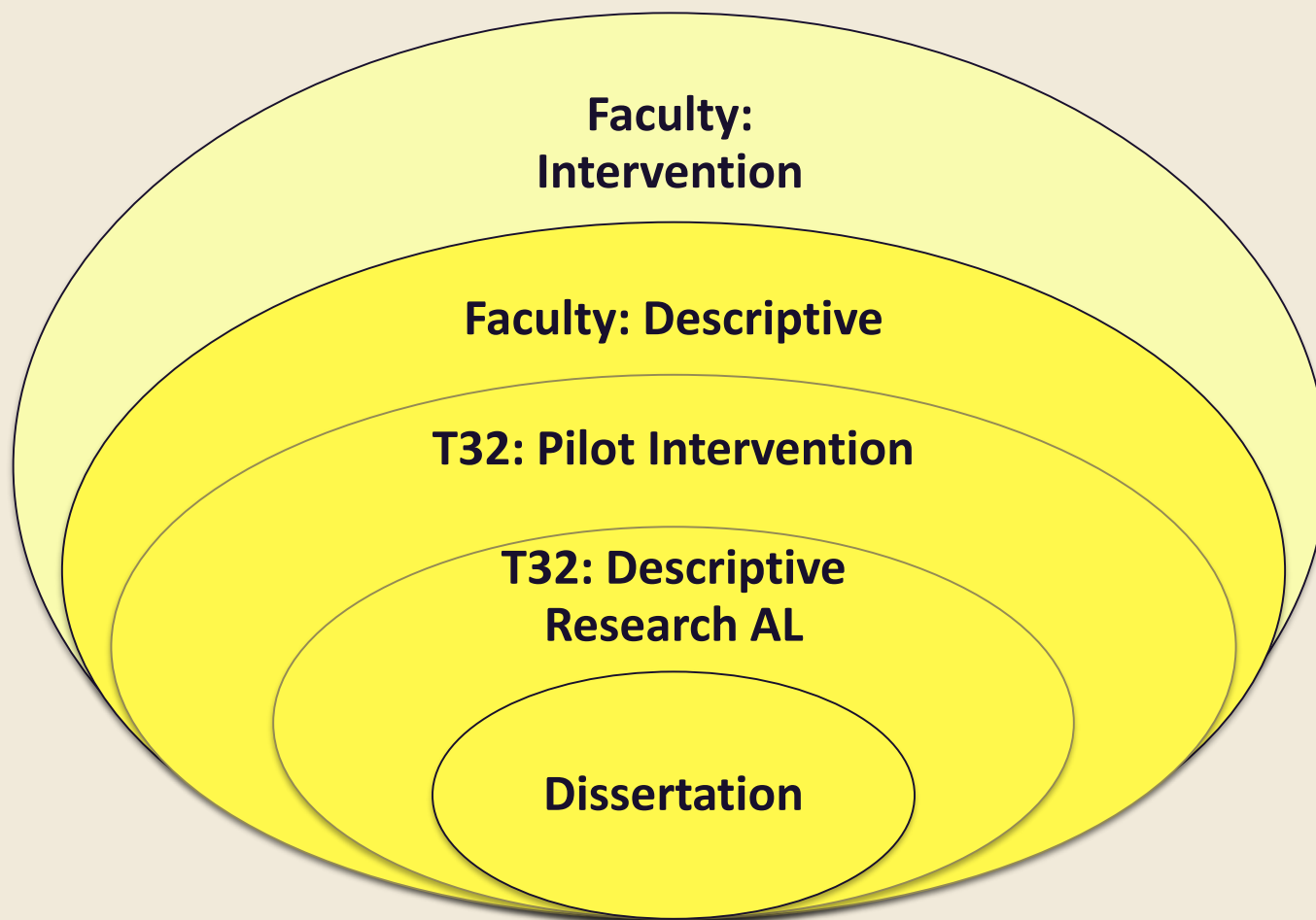
Methods:

- Longitudinal quasi-experimental before (using historical control study) and after intervention pilot study

Findings:

- There may be important benefits to using an interdisciplinary team to manage symptoms and distress in adults with AL

Symptomatology in Patients with Cancer



Exploring Relationships between Immunologic Profiles, Symptoms and Distress in AML

Purpose:

- To explore the relationships among PRO, immunologic and cytogenetic profiles in AML during induction chemotherapy.

Methods:

- Longitudinal descriptive study

Findings:

- Currently in data analysis. Preliminary findings:
 - Patients experience multiple co-occurring symptoms
 - Pain, Fatigue, Sleep Disturbance, Anxiety and Distress
 - Different cytogenetic patterns may predict certain symptoms
 - Pro-inflammatory cytokines were found to be present and may predict certain symptoms

Exploring the Relationships between Symptoms, Stress and Salivary Proteins in Family Members of Adults AML

Purpose:

- Examine the relationships among symptoms, stress, and biological correlates of stress in primary family member of adults undergoing treatment for AML

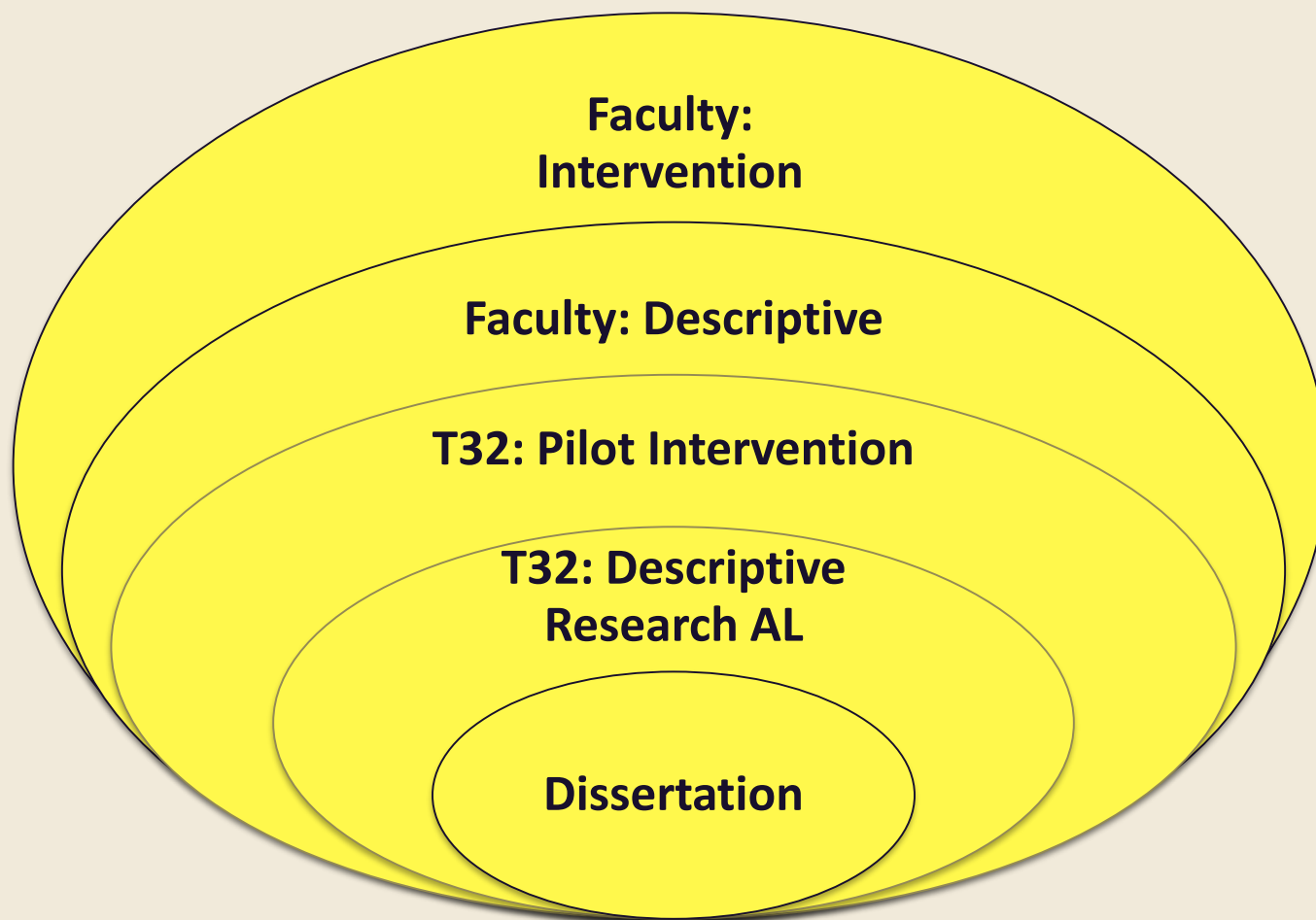
Methods:

- Longitudinal descriptive exploratory design

Findings:

- Currently in data analysis. Preliminary findings:
 - Show family members experience moderate to severe distress, anxiety, depression, sadness, fatigue and disturbed sleep.
 - Highest symptom burden found at week 4
 - While family needs were met at week 1 of hospitalization, family members reported needs were more often not met in the following 4-weeks of treatment.

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Physical Activity as a Self-Management Approach to Improve Health Outcomes in AML

Purpose:

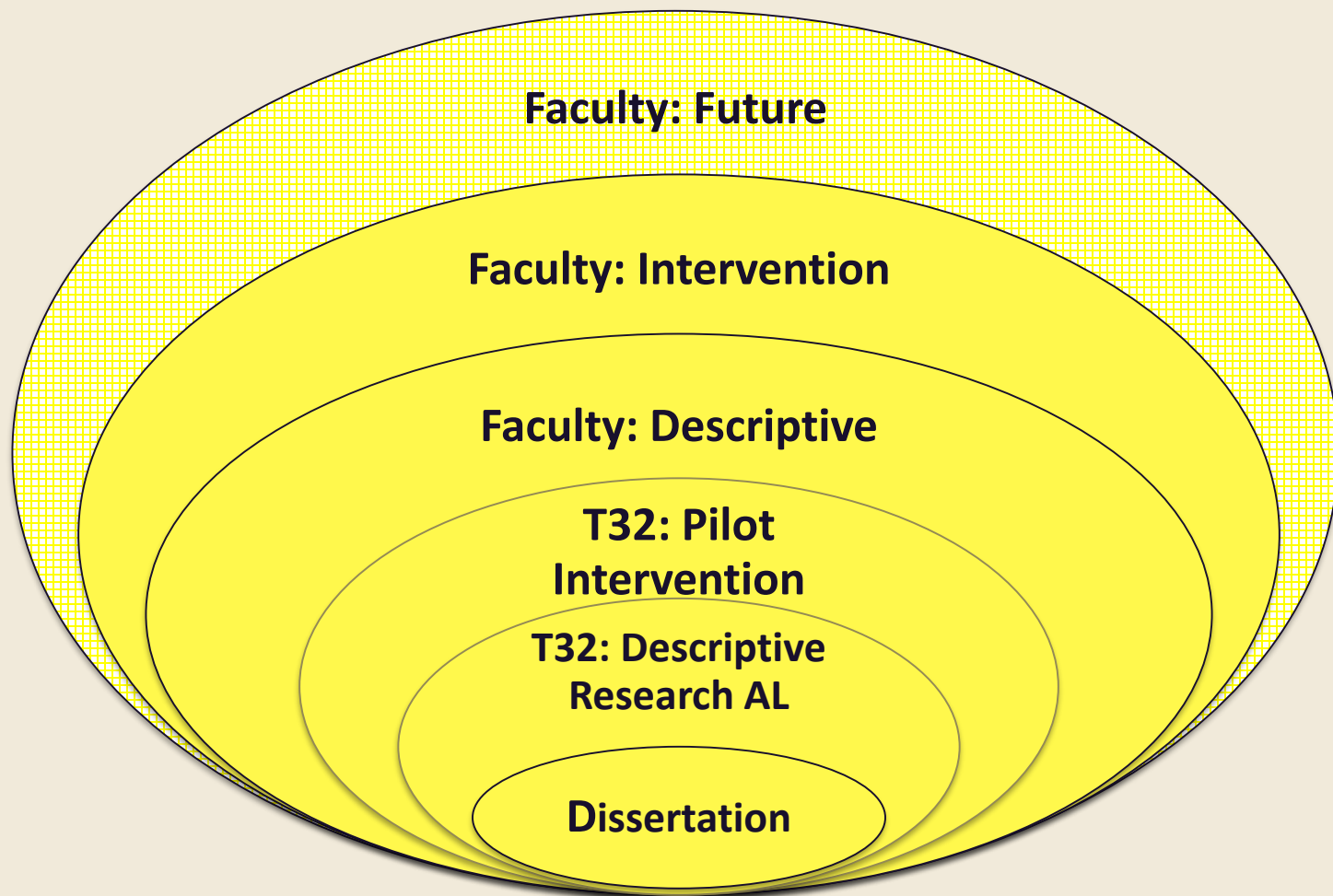
- Determine the feasibility and preliminary efficacy of the BSMA program involving PA in patients receiving consolidation treatment for AML.

Methods:

- Quasi-experimental cohort control study design

Findings: pending

Symptomatology in Patients with Cancer



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Questions?

Thank you.

“We have to ask ourselves whether medicine is to remain a humanitarian and respected profession or a new but depersonalized science in the service of prolonging life rather than diminishing human suffering.”

~Elisabeth Kubler Ross

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