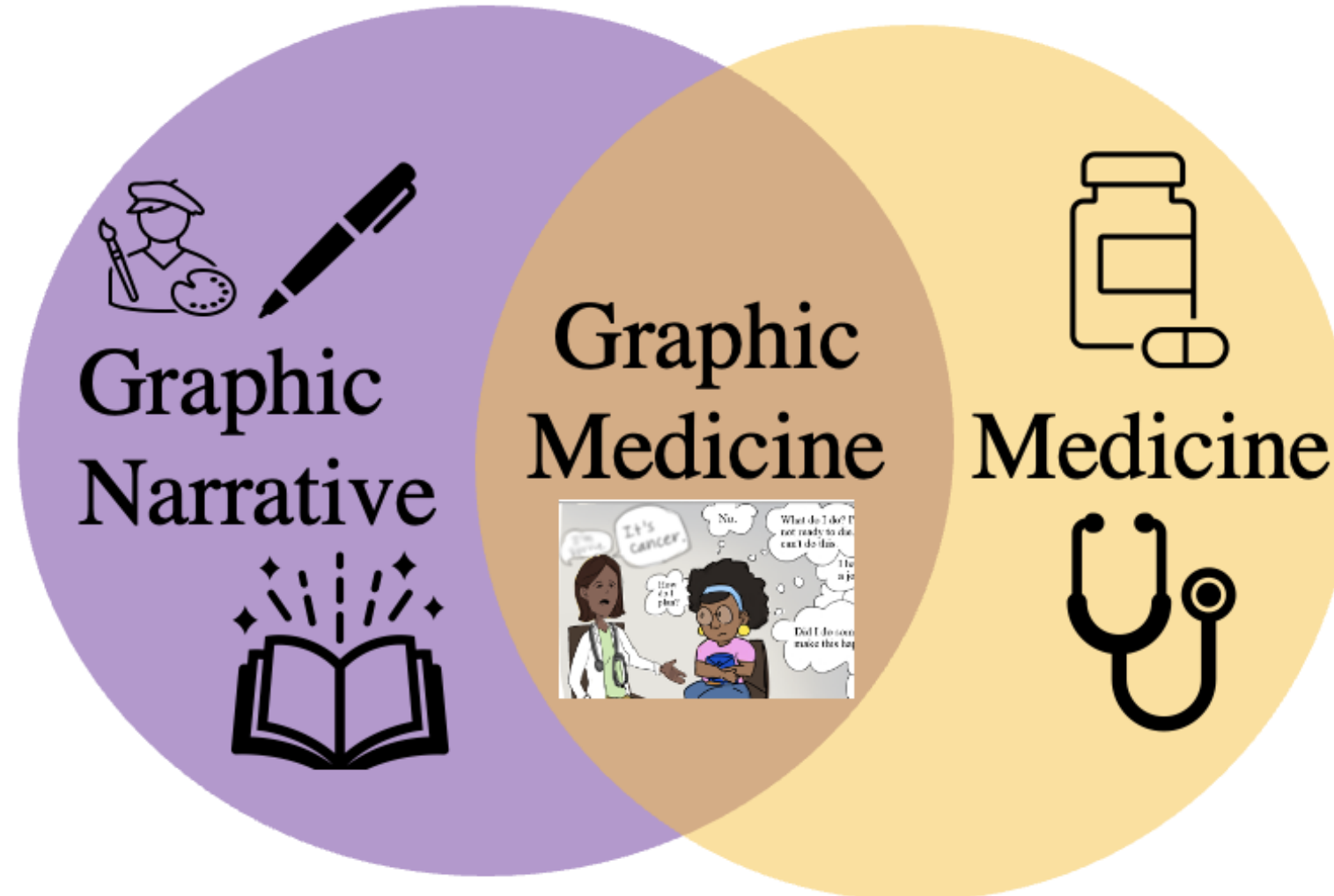


Coping and Chemotherapy: A Trilingual Graphic Medicine Approach to Oncology

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Background

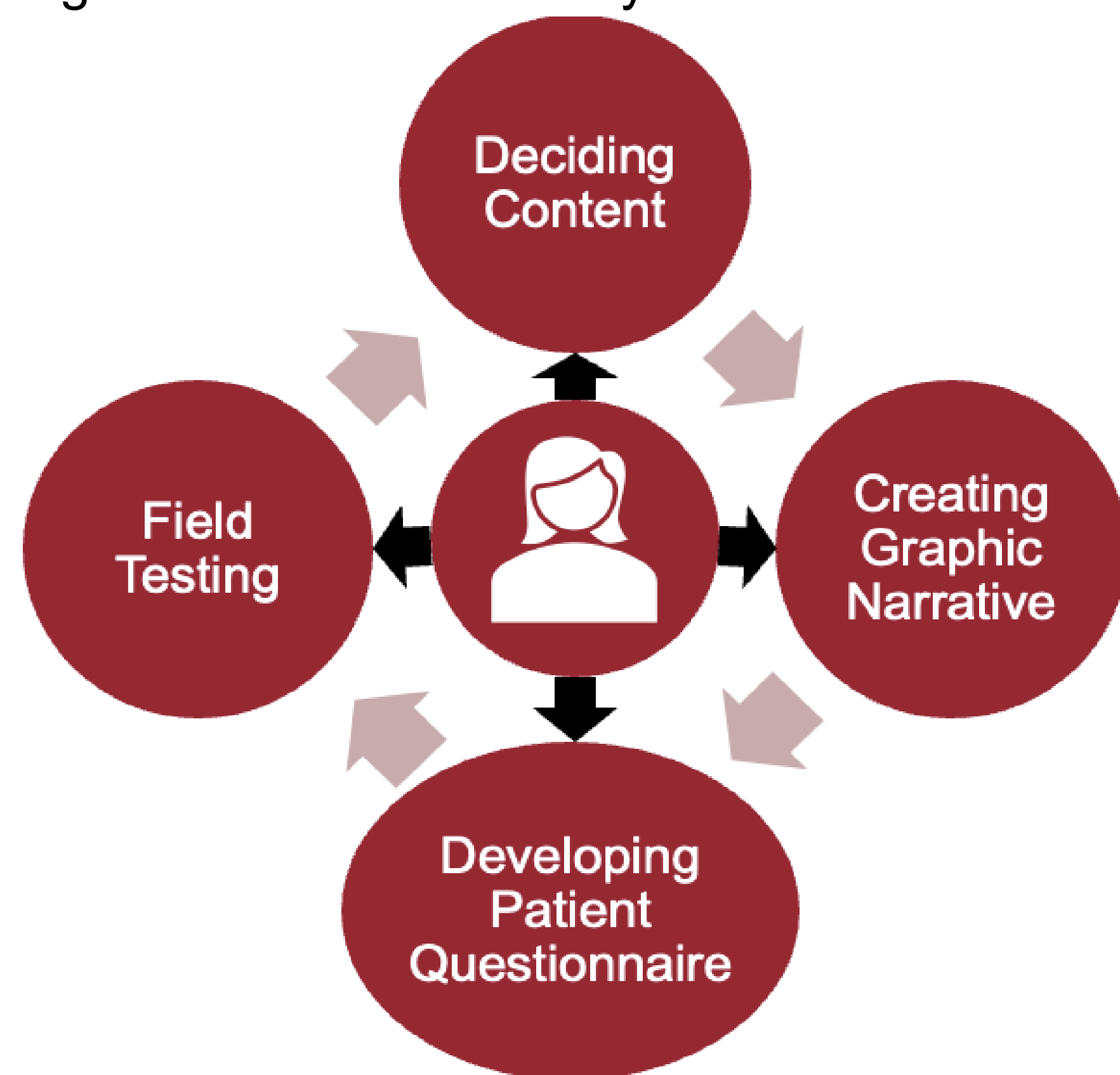
- Graphic medicine combines the disciplines of medicine and graphic narratives



- Visual mediums may hold more appeal and help simplify and explain complex topics
- Information told through graphic medicine may be more accessible

Objectives & Study Design

- To create a narrative about a patient with a newly diagnosed cancer
- To investigate the potential usefulness of graphic narrative as a therapeutic and teaching tool in oncology clinics
- Multistage mixed methods study



Feedback and Readability

- Positive feedback
- Areas for growth
 - Increase gender diversity
 - Change physician's expression
 - Add local resources
- Readability
 - Flesch Reading Ease: 82.4 (easy to read)
 - Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 3.7 (third grade)

Final Version of the Comic*

*also available in Spanish and Vietnamese, including Patient Resources page

Results: Demographics

CHARACTERISTICS	N, %
Age	Range: 25 to 86 y.o. Mean: 63 y.o.
Race/Ethnicity	White (88, 57.9%) Black (48, 31.6%) Latino or Hispanic (16, 10.5%) Other (3, 1.9%)
Preferred Language	English (148, 96.7%) Spanish (5, 3.3%)
Cancer	Endometrial (75, 50.3%) Ovarian/fallopian tube (39, 26.2%) Cervical (15, 10.1%) Vaginal, vulvar, and other (20, 13.4%)
Stage	Stage I/II (46, 32.6%) Stage III/IV (48, 34.0%) Recurrent (16, 11.3%) Uncertain 931, 21.9%)

Results: Patient Questionnaire

RESPONSES	N (%)
Relatability/Likability	
Enjoyment	120 (84.0%); p < 0.001
Relatability	122 (85.4%); p < 0.001
Sense of empowerment	100 (70.9%); p < 0.001
Usefulness	
Coping mechanism	130 (91.6%); p < 0.001
Resources	98 (71.5%); p < 0.001
Expansion of knowledge	111 (78.7%); p < 0.001
Anxiety	90 (58.4%); p < 0.001

Results: Patient Comments

- "It felt like me"
- "It made me happy"
- "It gave me hope"
- "It is very helpful, good advice"
- "Simple; relatable"
- "It's relatable and positive"
- "Very informative"
- "Fran and I are the same hue"
- "The comic was a good choice, rather than just words"



Conclusion & Future Direction

- Conclusion
 - Patient centered, well received, readable, and relatable
 - Helpful in reducing anxiety and providing information/resources
 - Graphic medicine interventions are useful in an oncology setting
- Future Direction
 - 77.8% indicated interest in future graphic medicine pamphlets
 - 49.1% were interested in a pamphlet on chemotherapy or radiation