



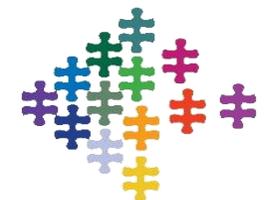
National Institute  
of Nursing Research



# Conceptualizing Your Research Career



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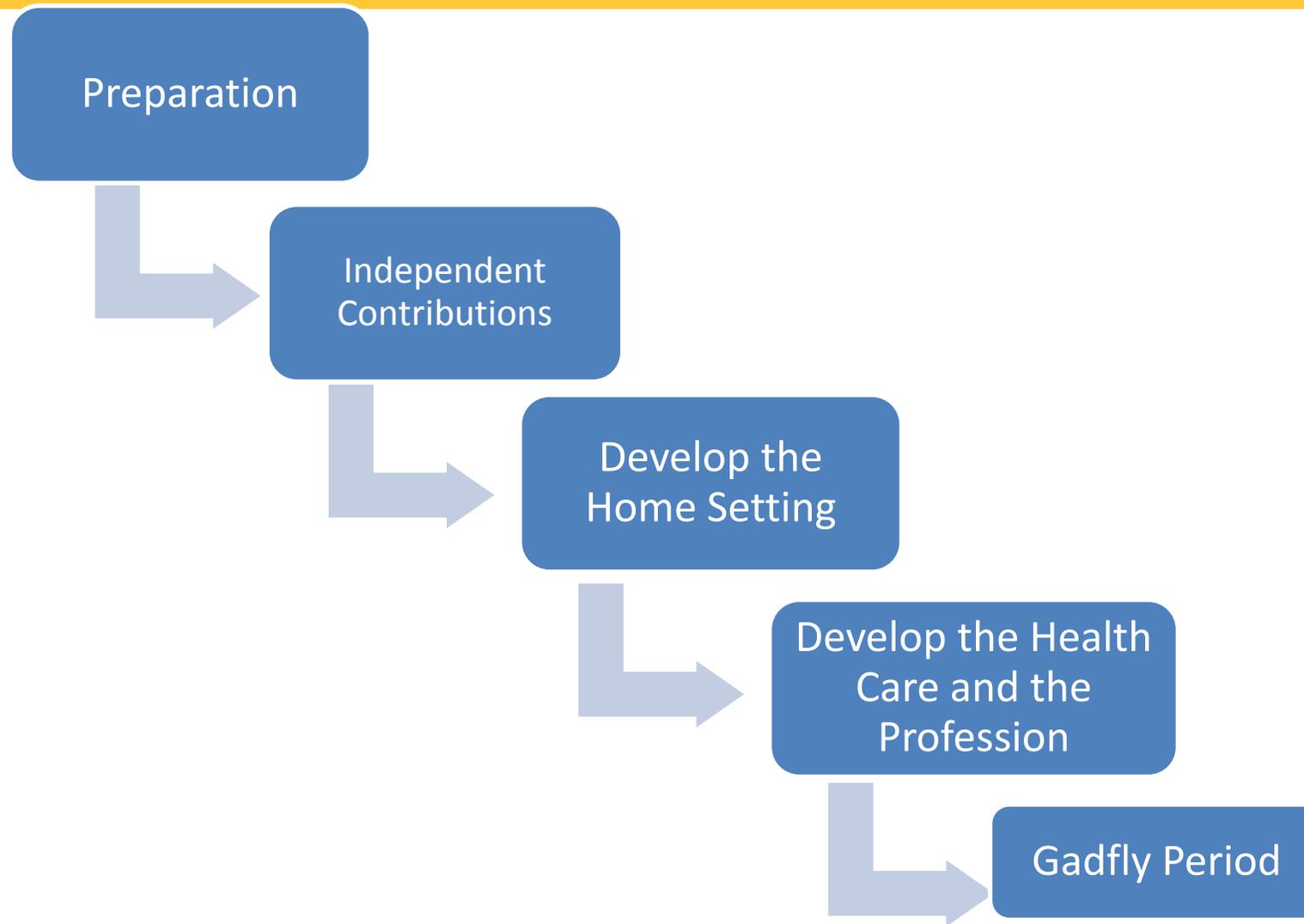
# Making Strategic Scholarship Decisions

## Conceptualizing your research trajectory to guide strategic decisions

- Career stage
- Research trajectory
- Areas of research focus

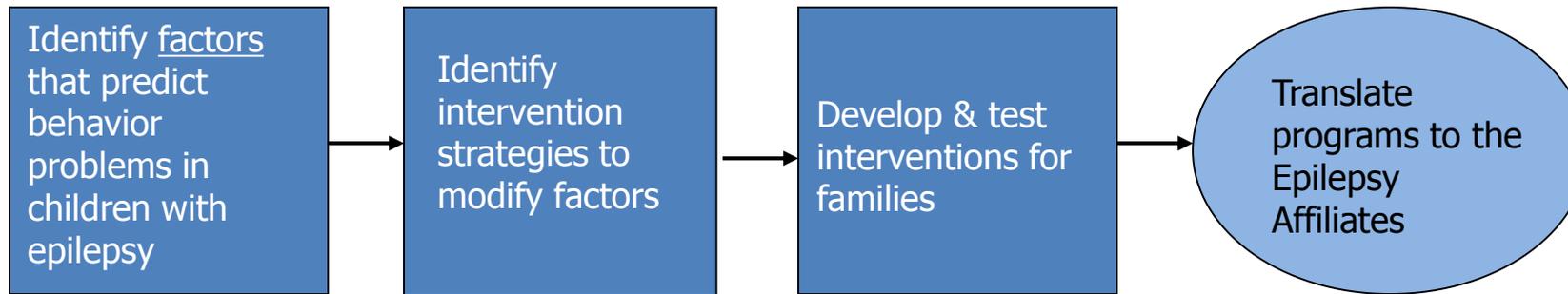


# McBride's Career Stages



# Conceptualizing Your Research Trajectory

Goal: To promote mental health in children with epilepsy by reducing behavior problems



This was my planned trajectory for type of studies.



# My Areas of Focus for Career Decisions

## Family

Parent coping, attitudes, child rearing behaviors, affect, stigma, anxiety, and information needs

Child attitudes, coping, information needs

## Epilepsy

Severity, syndrome, seizure type and frequency

## Neurological

Neuropsychological functioning, brain structure (MRI) and function (EEG)

## School

Academic achievement



# Keep Your Research in Mind When...

## Accepting other faculty roles. Seek:

- Teaching assignments that align with your research interests
- Service activities related to your current and future research goals
- Opportunities to develop research interests with experts at sister institutions
- Learning opportunities in service activities such as IRB and Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA)



# Keep Your Research Goals in Mind When...

- Choosing professional organizations to join
  - Nursing research organizations
  - Disease-related societies
  - Voluntary organizations



# Keep Your Research Goals in Mind When...

## Making decisions related to clinical activities.

- Conduct your faculty practice in the area of your research program
- Do guest lectures related to clinical practice in your research area
- Supervise students in the clinical setting in your research area
- Work with clinical nurses and student dissertation research in your area of research



# In Summary

- There are important tasks to accomplish at every stage of your career
- Knowing where you want to arrive helps to keep you focused on advancing your career
- Having a planned research career trajectory helps you make strategic decisions when seeking teaching, service, and clinical activities

