

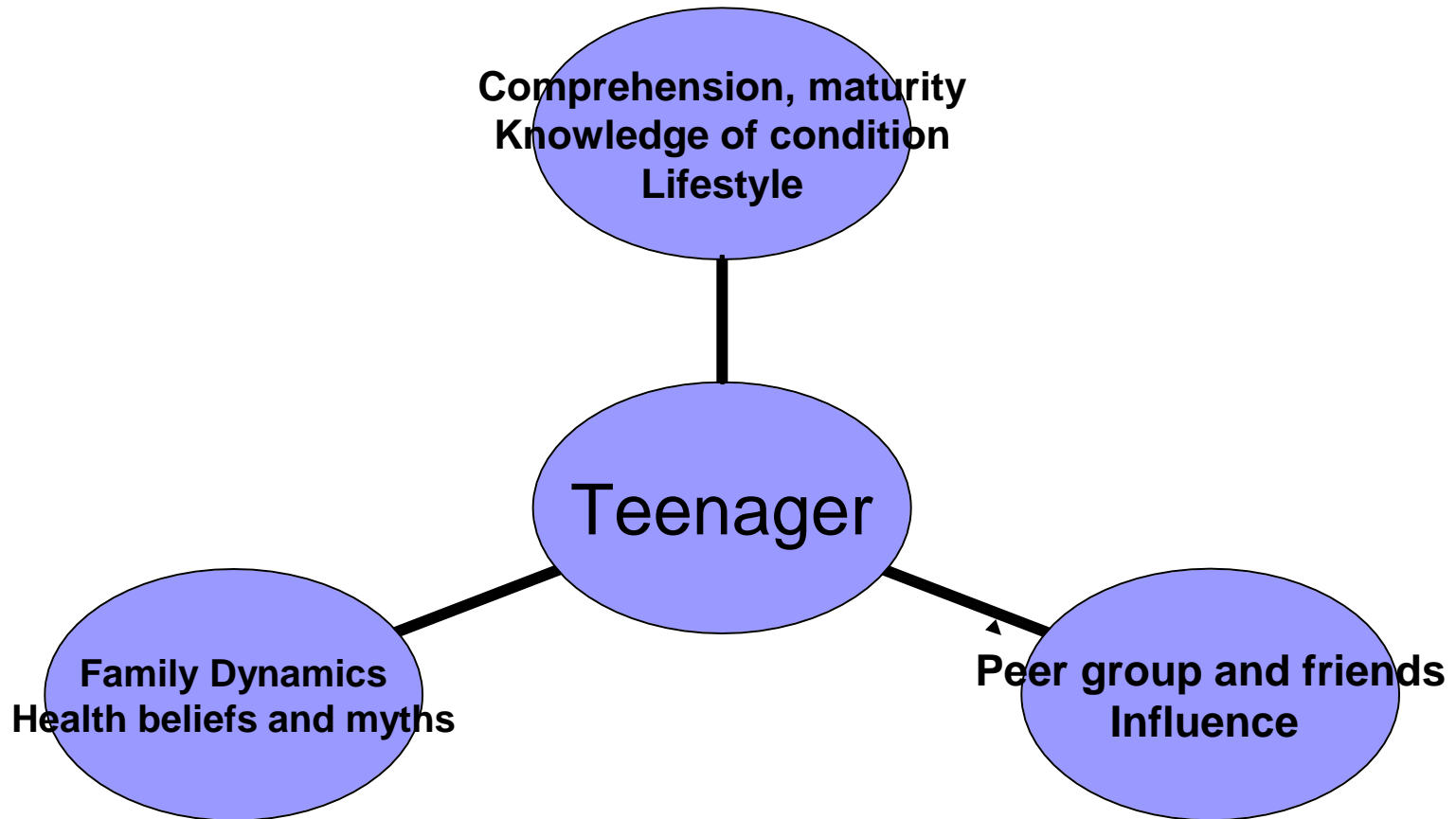


# **Communicating Sudden Death risk to a teenager**

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# Assessment



# Approach

## **Identify the issues for patient ,family and professionals**

Allow time to share information and explore understanding fears ,family dynamics and beliefs.

- ❖ This may mean several appointments initially before long term follow up .
- ❖ Seeing patient and parents individually ,as well as together . Building a relationship and gaining trust
- ❖ Team approach ,involve other health professionals and support groups who may be most appropriate to work with the family and patient at different levels e.g. counsellor ,specialist nurses



# Communication

- ❖ Avoid overload of information or misinformation ,use not only verbal but written information tailored to the patient.
- ❖ Ensure that other professionals are kept up to date and well informed i.e. school ,GP.
- ❖ Don't rush ! Keep in touch and allow the lines of communication to remain open , use email or texting if this helps
- ❖ Facilitate transition to Adult services

