

# **SNS COLLEGE OF NURSING COIMBATORE -35**



**Course : B.Sc. Nursing**  
**Semester : VII**  
**Subject : Community Health Nursing-II**  
**Unit : I**  
**Topic : Referral system**  
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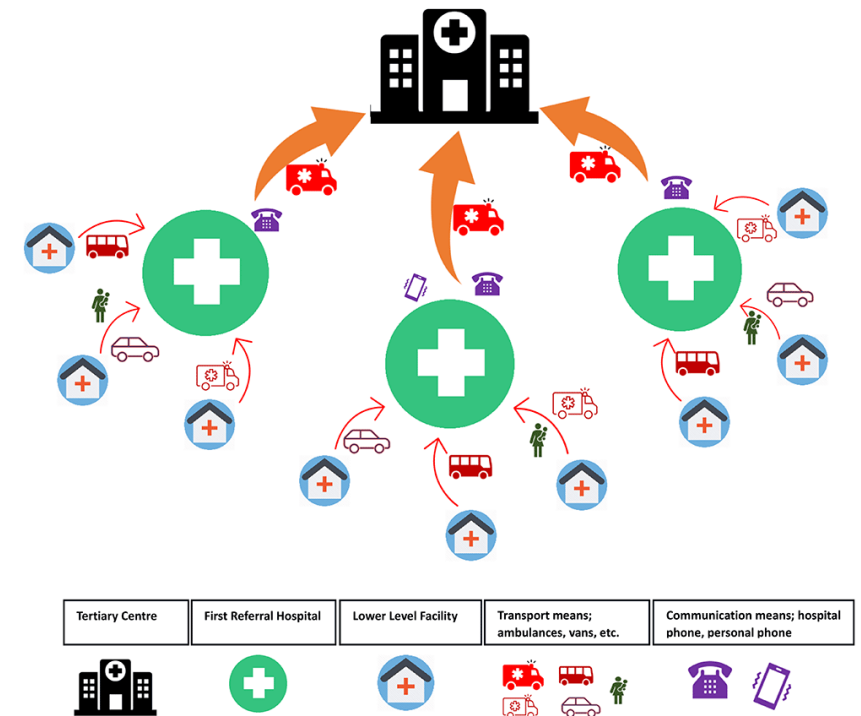
# Introduction

A referral system is a process for transferring patients or cases from a healthcare facility with limited resources to a higher-level facility that has the necessary resources to provide a higher standard of care. Its purpose is to ensure patients receive appropriate, effective, and timely treatment when a facility's technical competence or resources are insufficient.

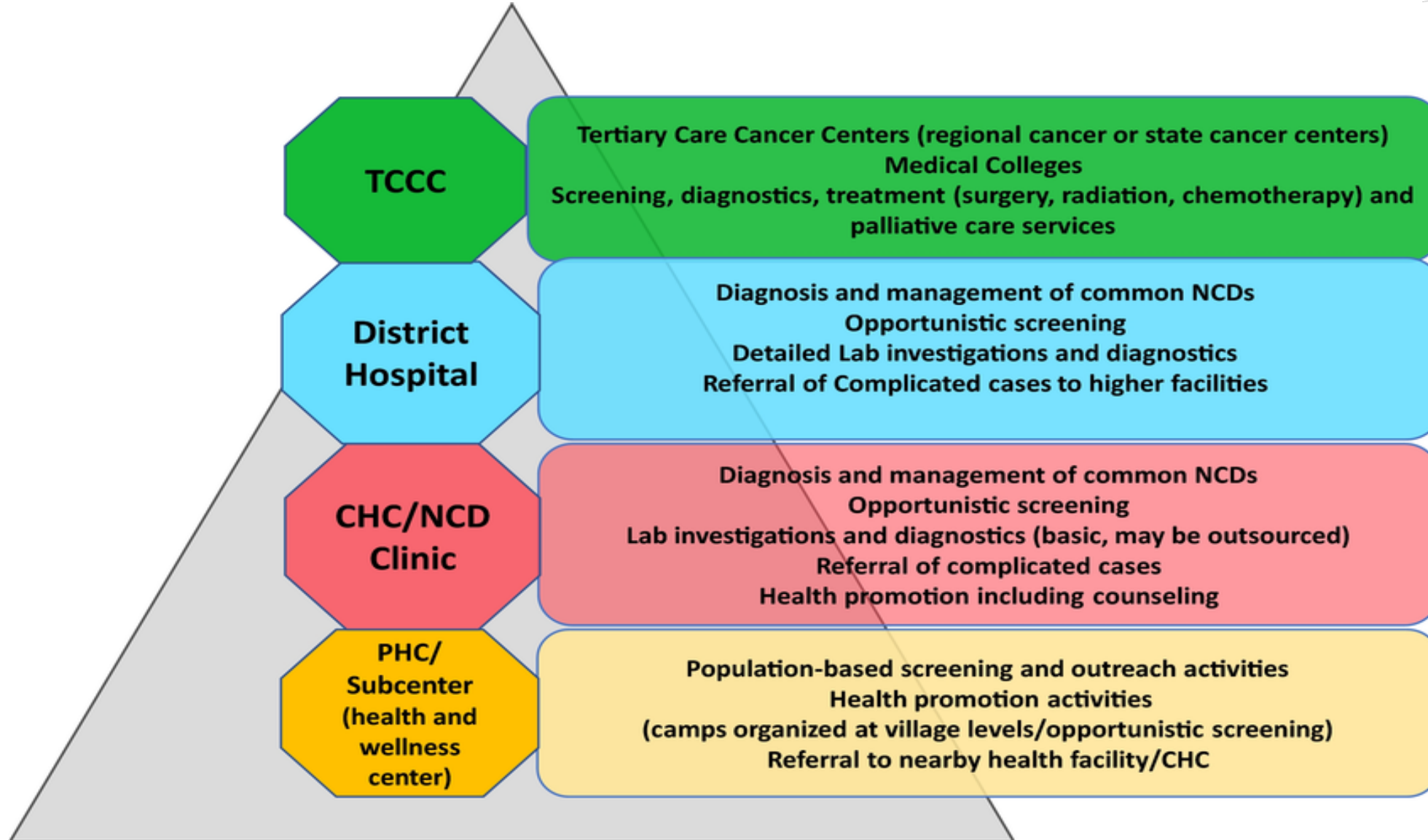


## Definition 09-11-2025

A referral system is a mechanism that enables a patient's health needs to be comprehensively managed using resources beyond those available at the location they access care from, be it in a community unit, dispensary, health Centre or a higher-level facility.



# Levels of referral



## Components of a referral system

1. Health System
2. Initiating facility
3. Referral practicalities
4. Receiving facility
5. Supervision and capacity building

# Reason for referral

## The Top 5 Reasons Digital Referrals Are Now a Healthcare Necessity



01

Patients Expect  
Seamless,  
Connected Care

02

Value-Based  
Care Demands  
Outcome-  
Driven Referrals

03

HIPAA-  
Compliant,  
Secure  
Communication  
Is a Must

04

The  
Administrative  
Burden Is Real  
(and Fixable)

05

Scalability for  
Multi-Specialty  
and Multi-  
Location Care

# Types of referral

## Types of Referral

### Routine

- Seeking expert opinion for diagnosis and prognosis.
- Seeking hospital admission and management for the case.
- Seeking further investigations

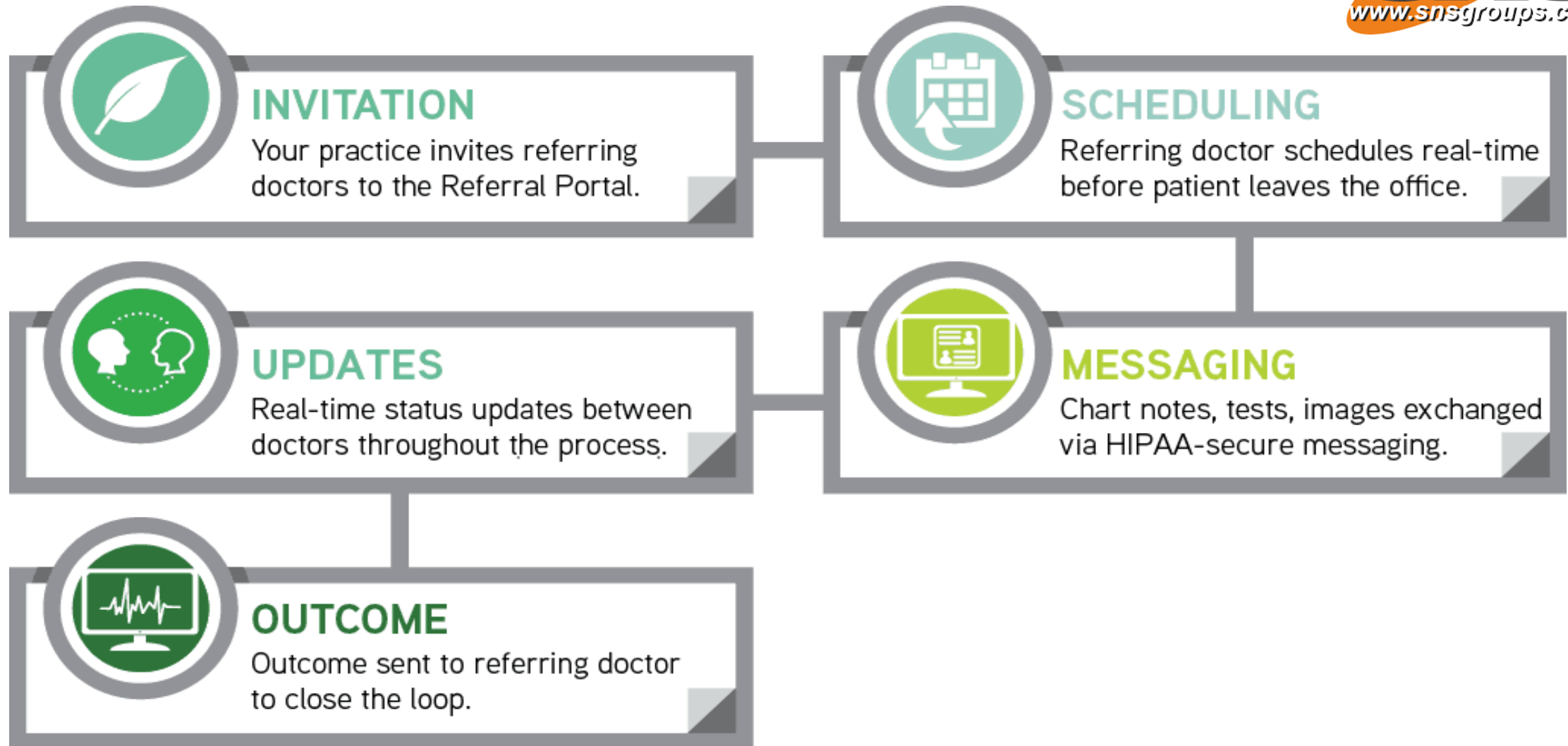
### Emergency

- To reach the expert on time before occurrence of deterioration with providing all expected information in referral letter.

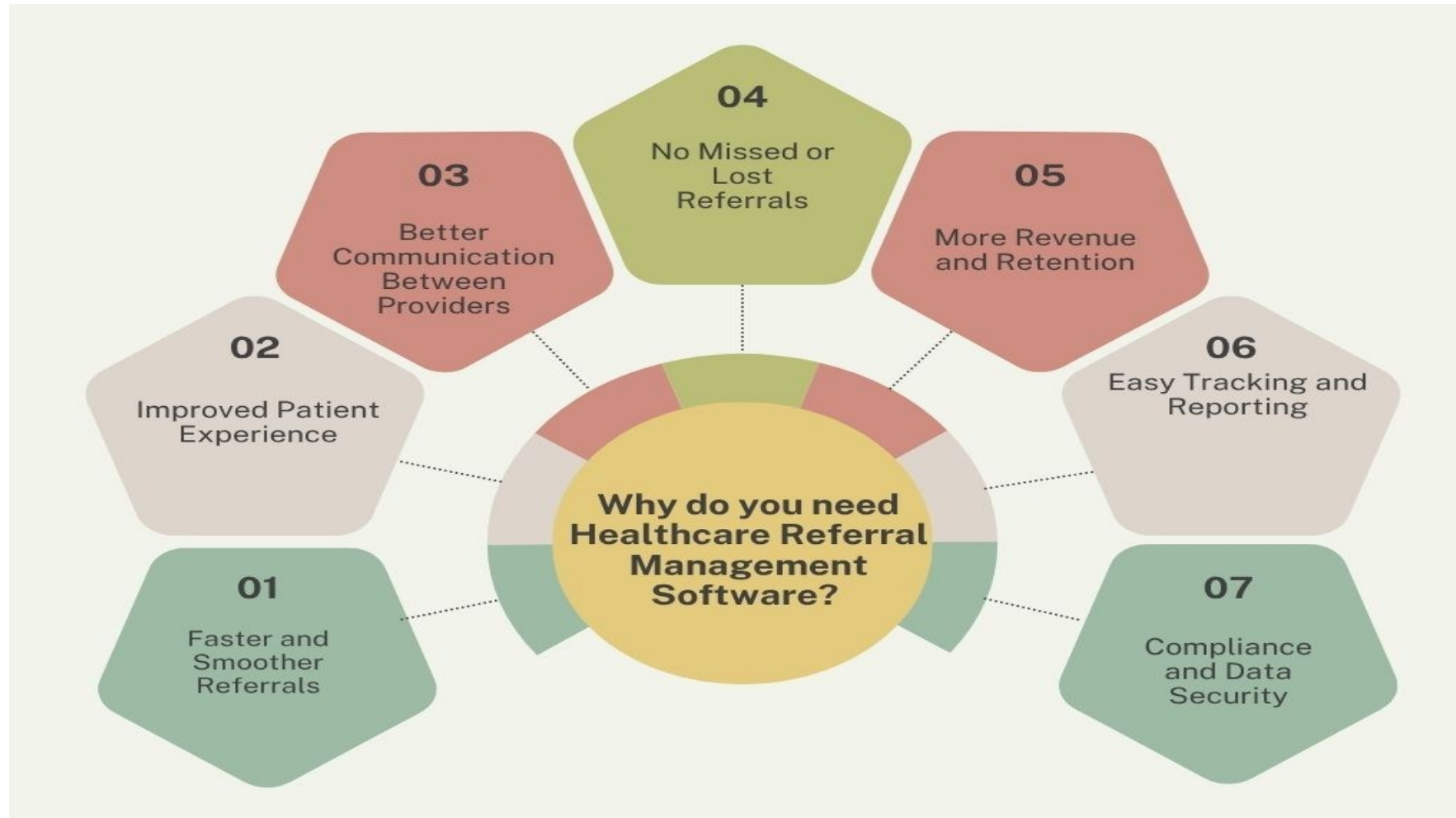
### Opportunistic

- For expert opinion
- Investigation
- Admission
- Management

# Process of referral



# E- Referral

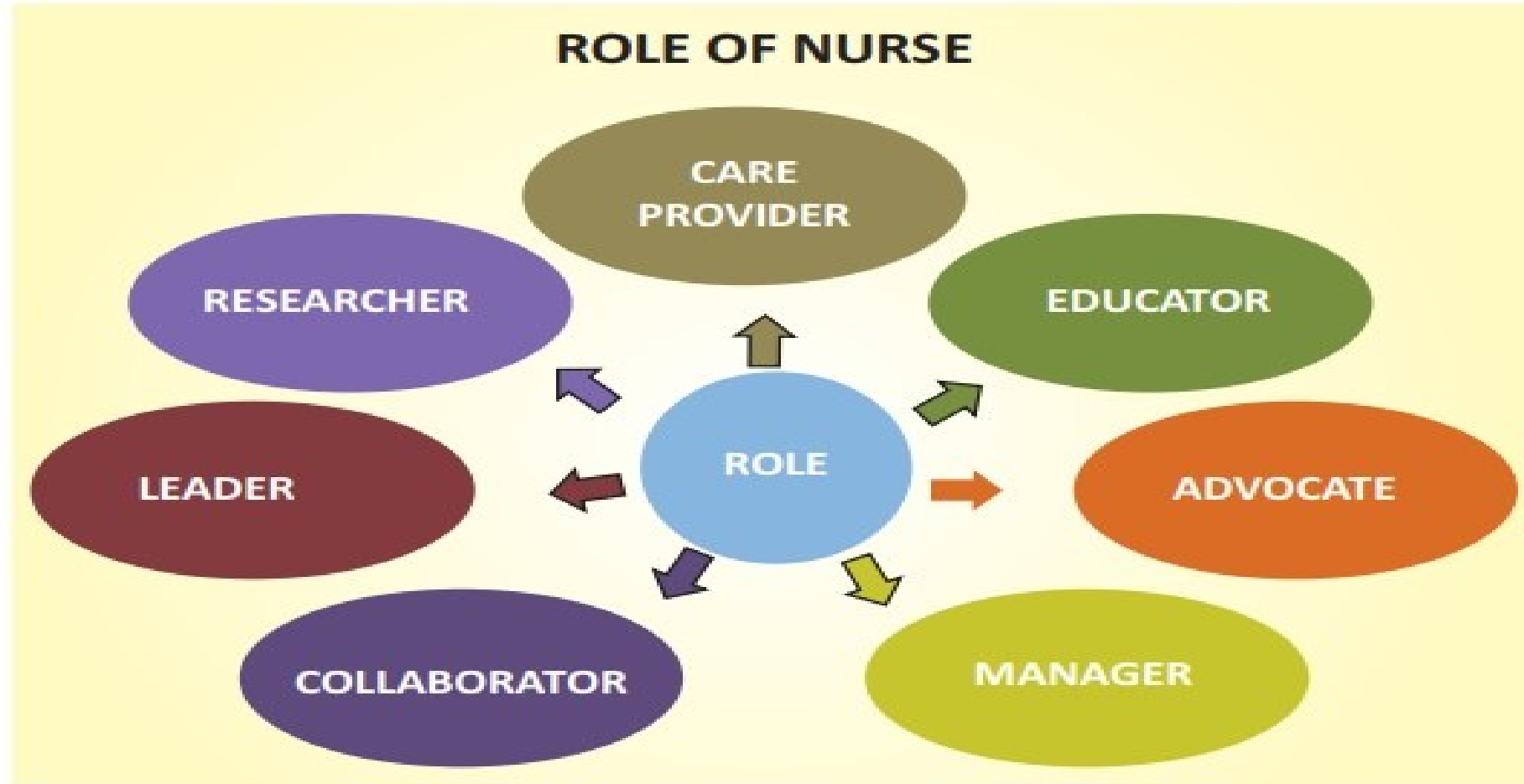


## Characteristics of referral

- ✓ Patient should be given optimal care at the right level, right time and right cost.
- ✓ Optimal and cost-efficient utilization of health care system.
- ✓ Optimal and appropriate utilization of specialist services for needy persons
- ✓ Optimal utilization of primary health care services.



# Role of nurse



## conclusion

A strong referral system in community health nursing is crucial for providing comprehensive and cost-effective care by connecting different levels of the healthcare system. Its conclusion is that its effectiveness depends on strong coordination, efficient communication (including digital tools), trained staff, and public awareness.

*Thank  
You!*