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Dementia Care & Brain Health

There's More to Dementia than Memory Loss



Care4U Family Conference October 2026

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Plan for the session:

- Slide presentation
- Invitation to engage in a few activities
- Time for questions

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Dementia



Is NOT. . .

… just about memory

… a normal part of aging

… the same for all

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Dementia



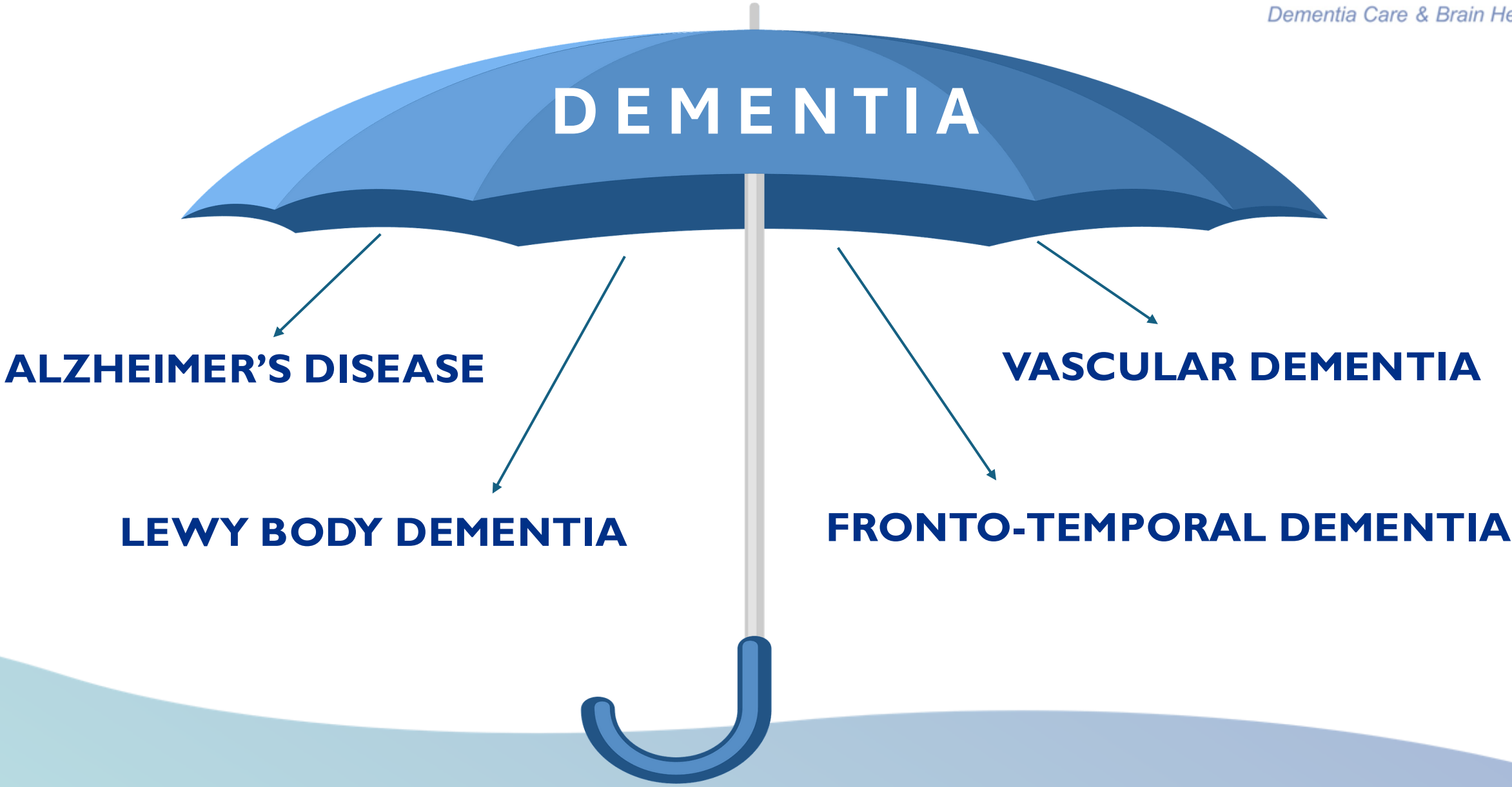
is. . .

... brain changes

... different for all

... progressive and terminal

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Effects of Dementia



CHANGES IN
COGNITIVE ABILITIES



CHANGES IN ABILITIES
RELATED TO DAILY TASKS



CHANGES IN
COMMUNICATION



CHANGES IN EMOTION,
MOOD, AND BEHAVIOUR

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Sequencing

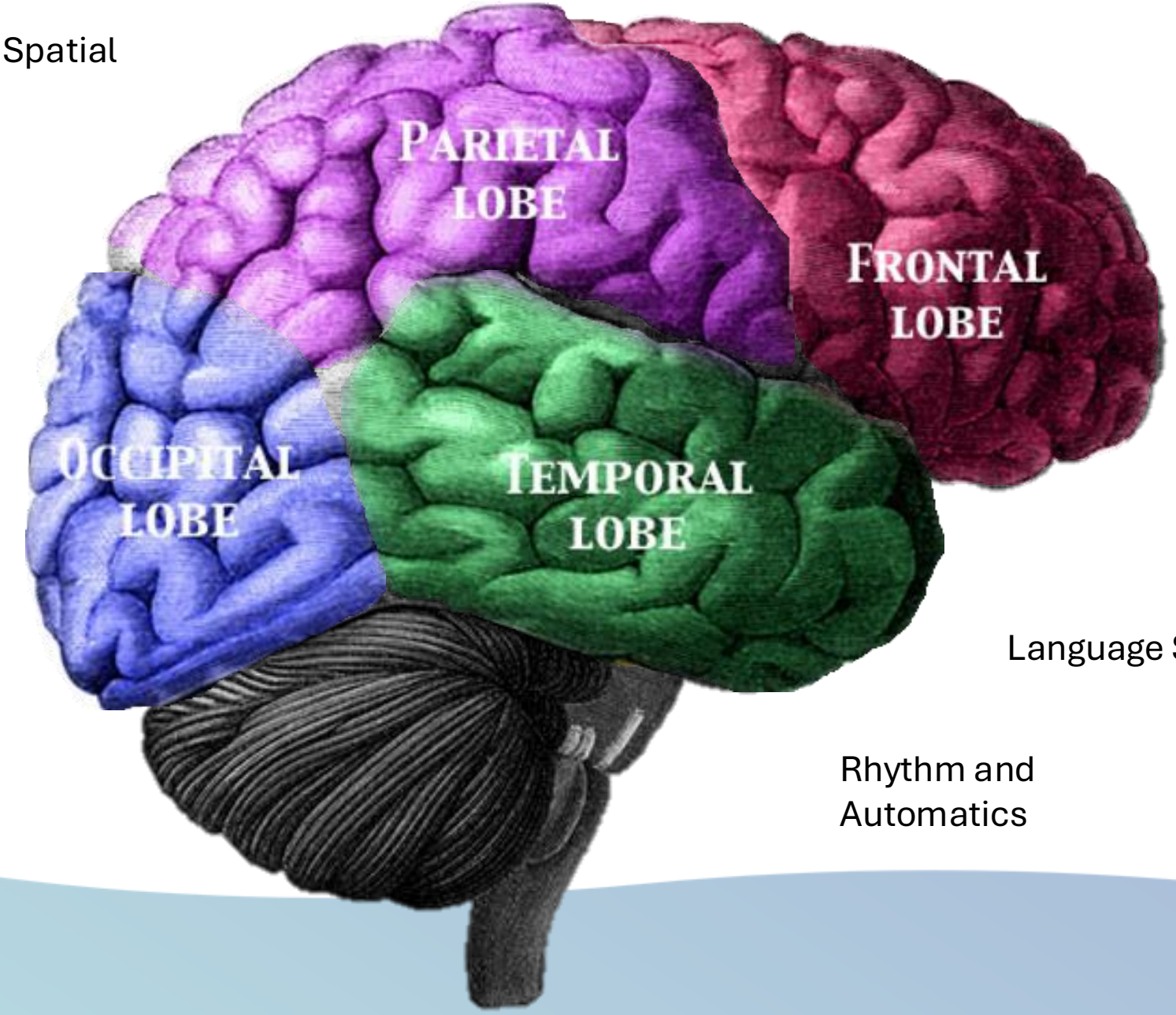
Physical and Spatial Awareness

Reasoning and Logic

Self Control

Complex Decision Making

Empathy and Insight



Visual Processing

Language Skills

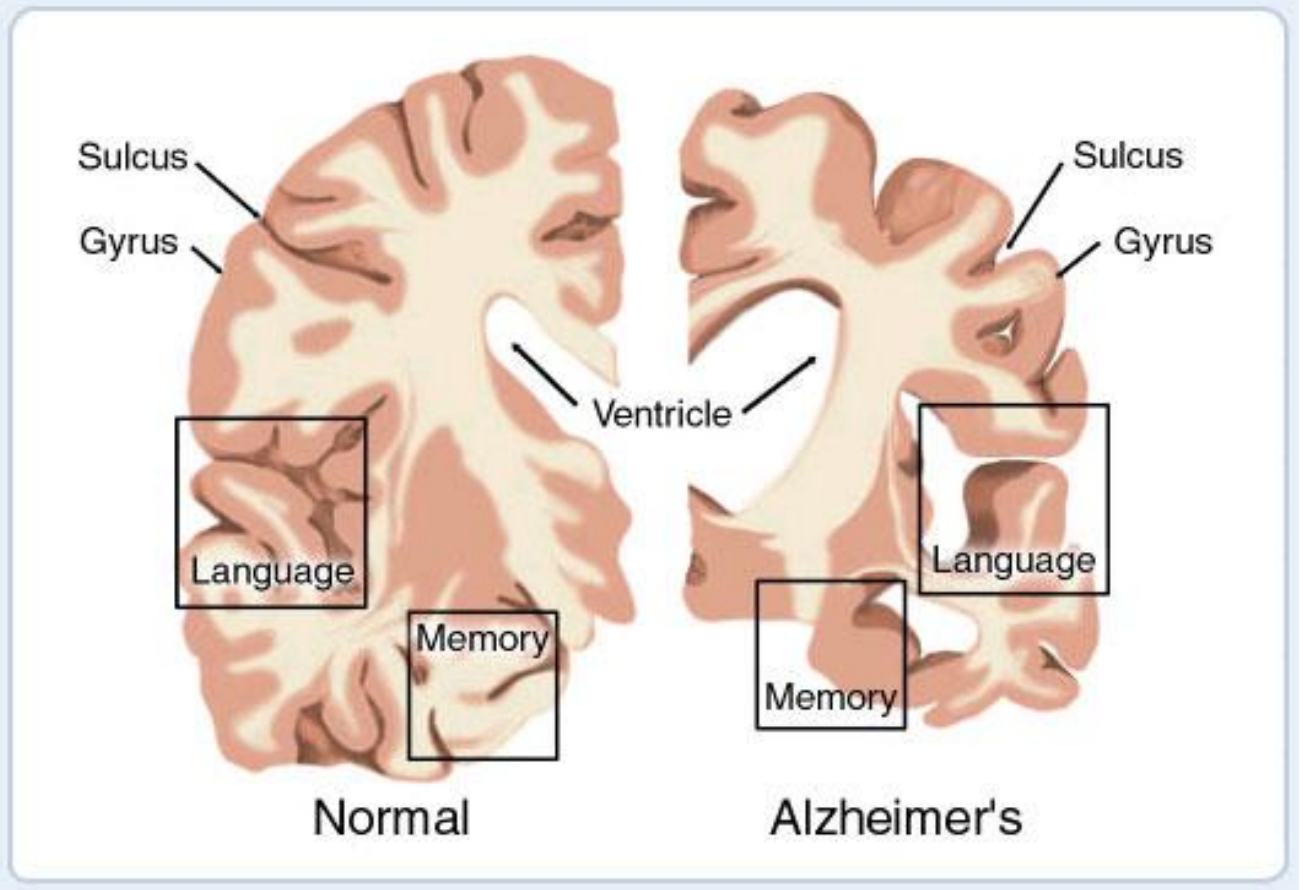
Rhythm and Automatics

Dementia is Brain Deterioration

"People with dementia are doing the best they can,

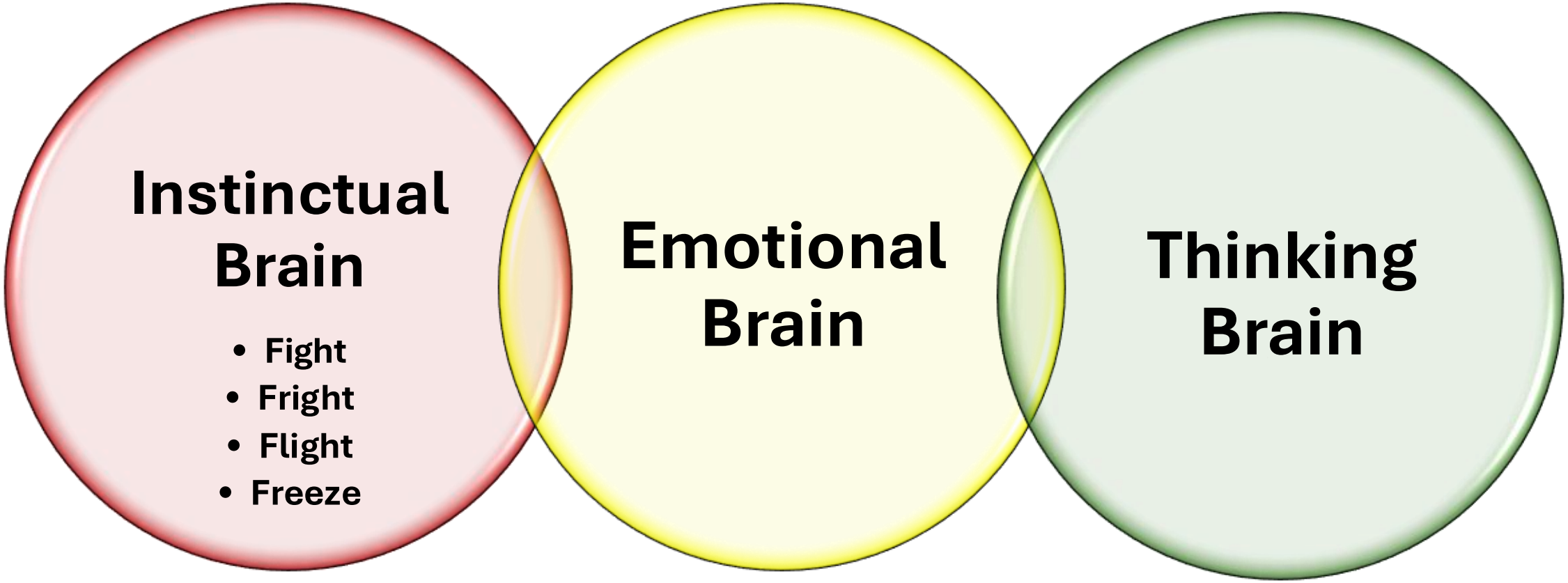
They can't adapt – so we have to as caregivers."

-Teepa Snow



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Understanding Behaviour



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Changes in cognitive abilities



Reasoning and Logic

Complex decision-making

Empathy and Insight

Reasoning and Logic

Scenario:

Mrs. Smith notices water on the kitchen floor.



Logical reasoning <u>before</u> dementia:

- "The floor is wet."
- "The sink must have overflowed or something spilled."
- "I should find the source and clean it up."



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How dementia may affect reasoning:

- Mrs. Smith sees the water but cannot reason out where it came from.
- She may conclude that someone intentionally poured water on the floor.
- She may become upset and accuse a family member of making a mess.
- Even when shown that the sink is leaking, she may struggle to understand the connection.

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Changes in abilities related to daily tasks



Sequencing

Physical/Spatial awareness

Mobility (gait, balance)

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Physical/Spatial awareness

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Changes in communication



Language skills

Comprehension skills

Rhythm and automatics

Changes in communication



Language skills

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Language skills

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Changes in emotion, mood & behaviour



Personality Changes

Impulse control

Visual Perception

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Changes in emotion, mood & behaviour



Personality Changes

Impulse control

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Sequencing

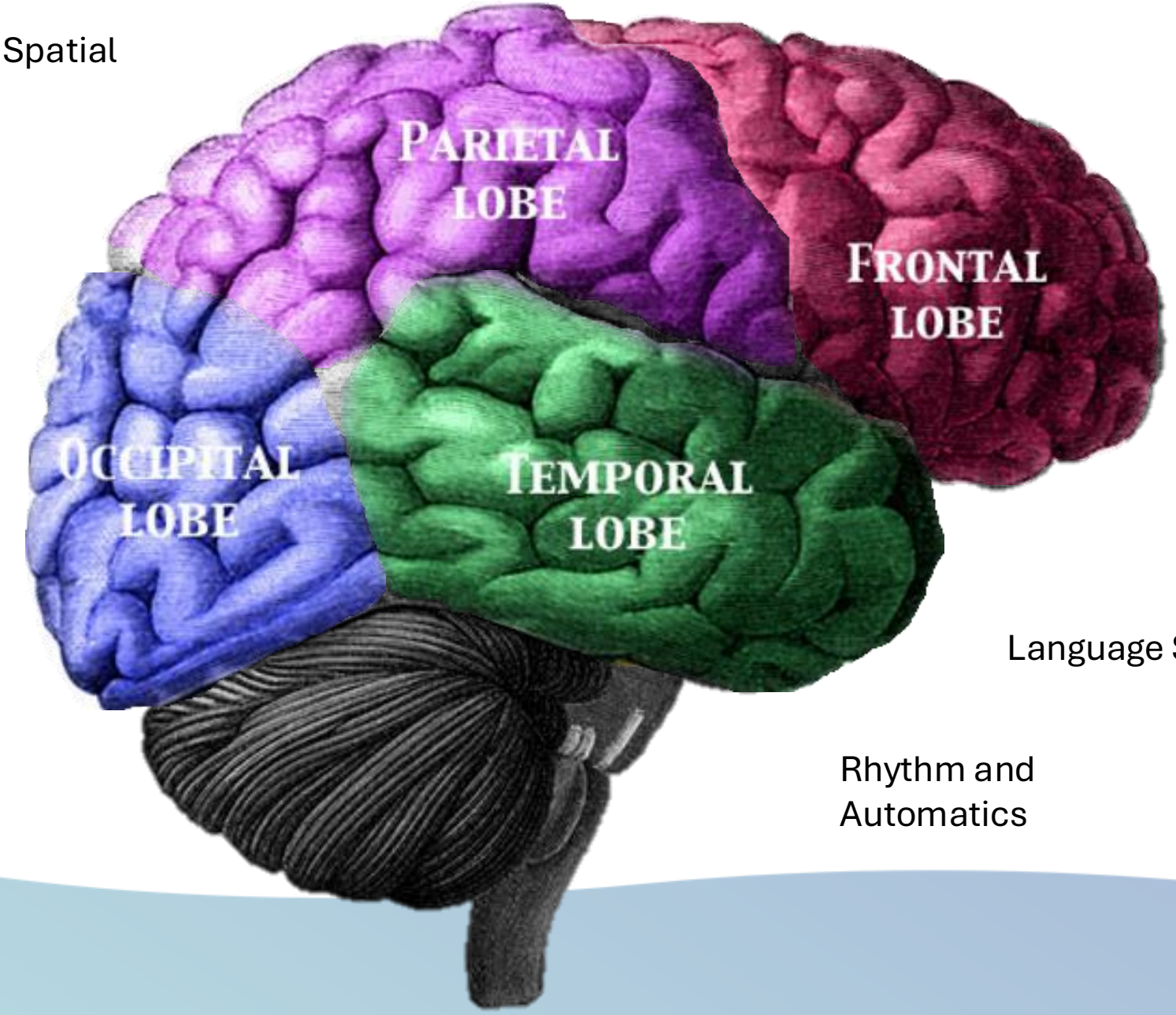
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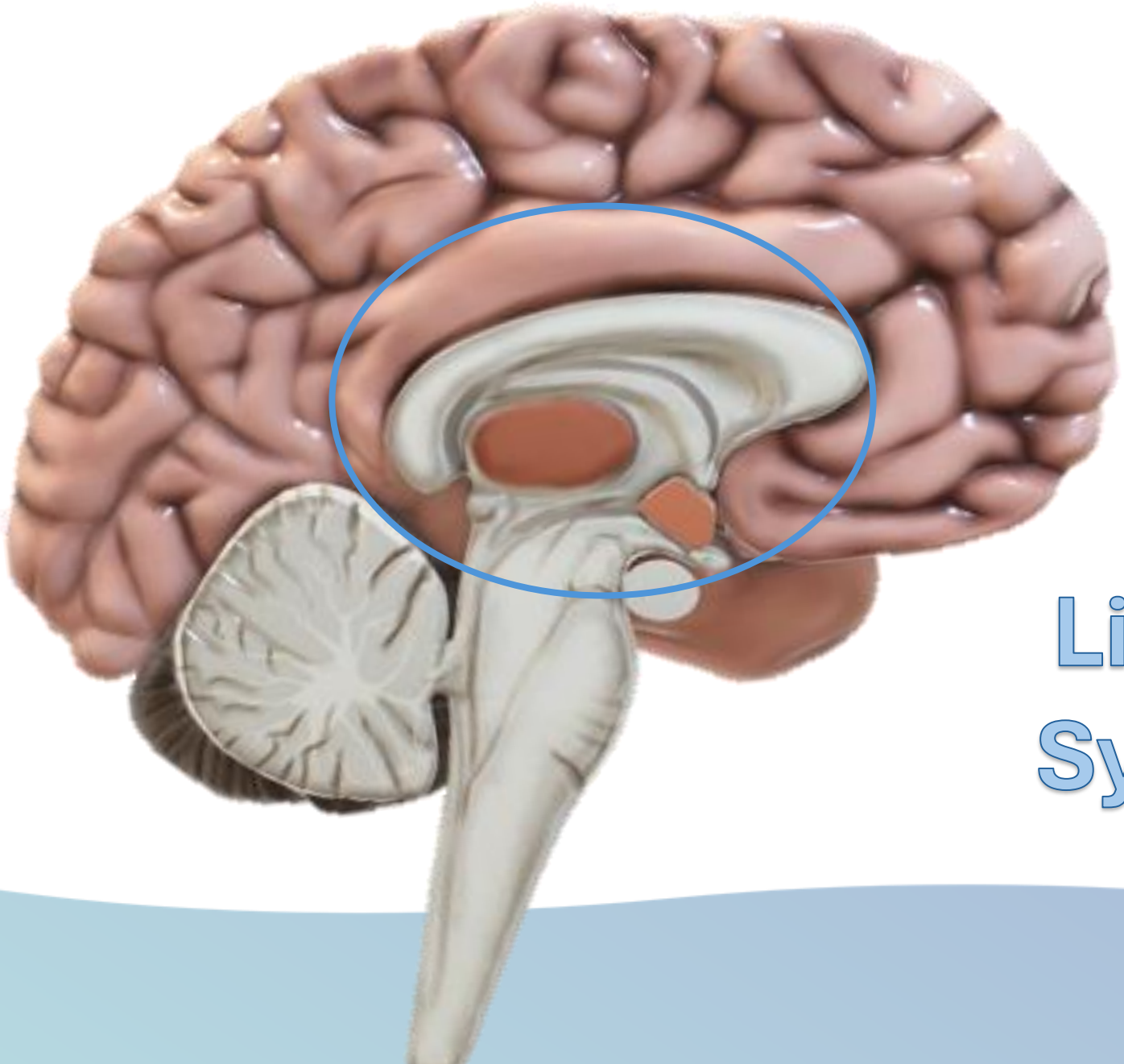


Visual Processing

Language Skills

Rhythm and Automatics

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Self Preservation

Threat Perception

Limbic System

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Changes in emotion, mood & behaviour



Personality Changes

Impulse control

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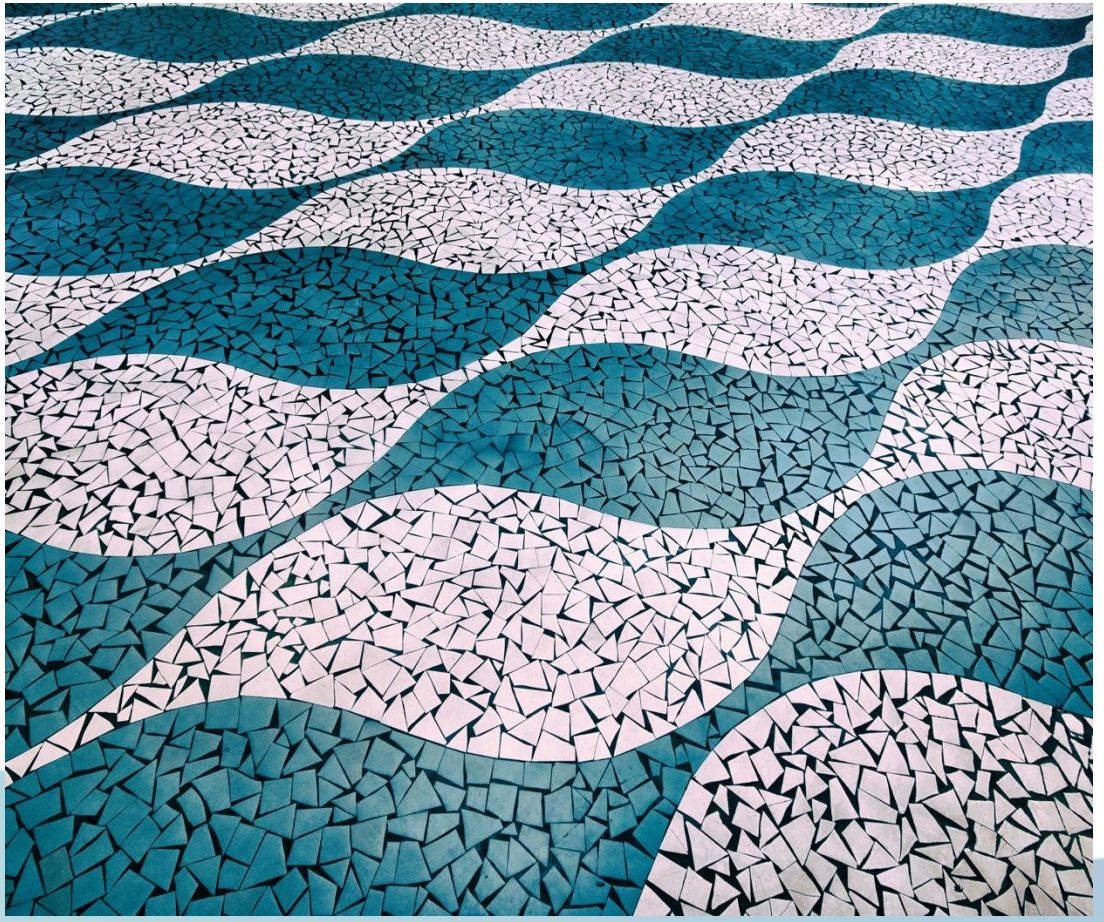
Visual Perception Changes





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Visual Perception Changes





Why is it useful to know that there is more to dementia than memory loss?

- Helps to explain symptoms we are seeing
- Helps us feel more equipped to respond
- Reminds us that the brain changes are causing the difficulty, not the person

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Our Services

- First Link® Client Support
  - One to One support
    - In-person, by phone, email, or virtual
  - Support Groups
    - For Care Partners and People Living with Dementia
- Education
  - Families, Professionals and General Public
- Community Programs
  - Minds in Motion®
  - Dementia-friendly Community Partner Programs
  - Public Awareness

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Questions?

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