chronic illness

• Lasts a year or longer
• Requires specialized treatments or technologies
• Causes limitations in function, activities, or social roles in patients (compared to healthy peers).

• Drotar, 2006
treatment

- Surgery
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation
- Bone Marrow or stem cell transplant
- other
psychosocial impact of childhood cancer

- Physical
- Cognitive
- Vocational
- Financial
- Family
- Social
- Emotional/psychological
financial
family
Especially siblings

• Shuffled
Especially siblings

- Shuffled
- Left out
Especially siblings

- Shuffled
- Left out
- Cheated
Especially siblings

• Shuffled
• Left out
• Cheated
• Jealous
social
emotional

• Sadness  anger  fear  bad resentment  powerless  shame  anxiety  numbness  MAD
• violated  Loneliness  weird guilt  bewildered  frustration inferior  betrayed betrayed betrayed betrayed betrayed helpless  incompetent worry  LOSS  abandonment uncertainty
• hopeless  different
Emotional Scars

Challenges with interpersonal, peer and friend relationships
balance
case example

Sarah
• Surgery
• Daily radiation for 6 weeks
• Daily oral chemo
• Weekly clinic visit for chemo and counts
• Monthly hospitalization
• Physical/occupational therapy appointments 2x week
• Weekly mental health counseling
• 3x week homebound

• Teen ager
• New born
• Sibling with special needs
• Dad with depression
• Mom quit work
• One car
• Significant side effects of treatment
Dancing in the Rain
The voice of the experts
Things to remember