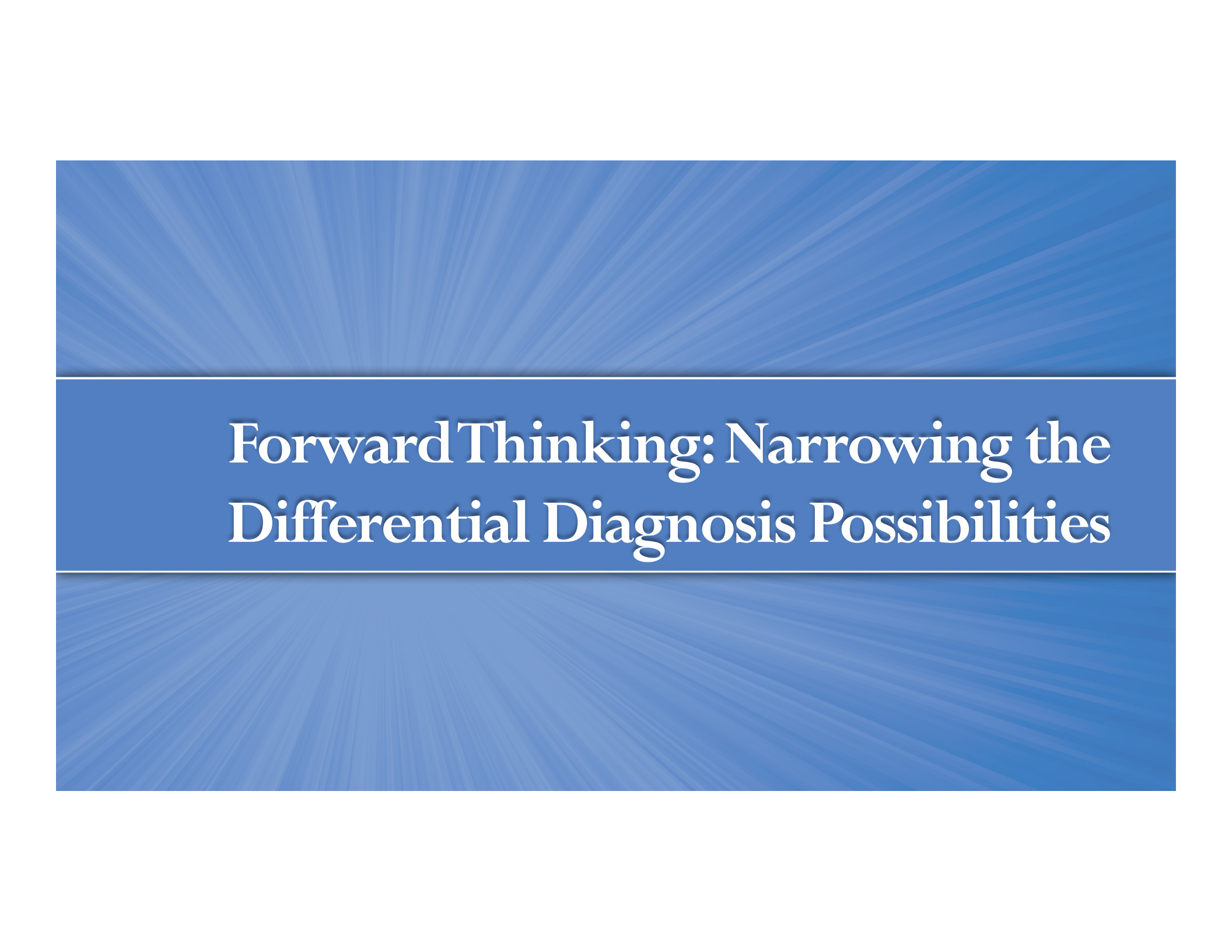




Forward Thinking: Narrowing the Differential Diagnosis Possibilities

Forward Thinking

- The clinician attempts to elaborate on the problem representation BEFORE they explicitly consider the differential diagnoses.
 - More history
 - Clarifying physical
- The DDx is informed by the enriched problem representation.

Using Forward Thinking

- Problem Representation: Syndrome
- Data gathering is more efficient
 - Each step of the process narrows the differential diagnosis
- Key Skills Needed:
 - Processing
 - Compare and contrast thinking

Ms. Sophia Bulara:

- 17 yo woman complains of leg pain for 2 days. She has felt tired and feverish for about four days, but she attributes this to soccer practice and the stress of college applications. She also remembers an unusually painful elbow 3 days ago that resolved on its own and then some vague wrist aching and redness. and some funny spots on her hands.
- She is a soccer player & leads camping trips. She has asthma. She is sexually active using OCPs. She is currently menstruating.
- PE: red, warm ankle, scattered spots on hand

Sophia Bulara: Processed Sx

DURATION



Acute

DISTRIBUTIVE



Oligo-

QUALITATIVE



Arthritis

Process

Forward Thinking: Trace the steps

