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# Communication and Coping During Hospital Visits and Hospitalizations: Preparing for Success

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Presented by: Kristin Diezel, MS, CCLS & Michelle Howard, MS, CCC-SLP

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**Tuesday, June 26, 2018**

**6:00pm – 8:00pm at the Charles River Center**

59 East Militia Heights Dr. Needham, MA 02492

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## Topics included in this discussion:

- What makes hospital visits and hospitalizations so difficult for patients with complex developmental needs?
- Considerations when planning for upcoming admissions and how to access resources
- What services are available in both inpatient and outpatient settings and how to advocate for support from Child Life Specialists, Speech-Language Pathologists, etc.
- Online resources to prepare for and use during hospitalizations and hospital visits (i.e. websites, Social Stories, other educational materials)

**RSVP to Carly Ackerley at 508-651-5913**

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**Kristin Diezel** is a Certified Child Life Specialist in the Autism Spectrum Center at Boston Children's Hospital. In her role as a child life specialist she focuses on preparing and supporting patients with an ASD diagnosis and their families across the hospital setting, including doctor's appointments, medical procedures, and the overall hospital experience.

**Michelle Howard** is a Speech-Language Pathologist at Boston Children's Hospital where she has specialized in bedside augmentative and alternative communication assessment and intervention for the past 1.5 years. Prior to becoming an inpatient SLP, she worked in Early Intervention providing services to patients with a variety of abilities including complex communication needs.