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Pediatric Clinical Trials: Questions to Consider

Asking questions and communicating with the Principal Investigator and Study Coordinator will help you feel confident in your decision. Here are some questions you might want to ask:

- What is the purpose of the trial? _____
- Why is my child a good candidate for this trial? _____
- How does this investigational treatment differ from what my child is currently receiving? _____
- What are the benefits, if any, to my child? _____
- What are the risks/potential side effects (both short-term and long-term)? _____
- Why do the researchers believe that the treatment being studied may be better than the one being used now? Why may it not be better? What are the chances my child could receive placebo? _____
- What tests, medicines, or therapies will be administered? _____
- How will we know if the investigational treatment is working? _____
- How and when will we be told about the trial's results? _____
- Will my child need to be hospitalized or see doctors at other locations? _____
- How long will the trial last? _____
- Will I have to pay for any of the treatments or tests? _____
- What costs will my health insurance cover? _____
- Who pays the medical bills if my child is injured in the trial? _____
- Who can help answer questions from my insurance company? _____
- Are any personal costs such as meals, compensation for time away from work, or gas paid for by the organization or individual running the clinical trial? _____
- Who will provide information and support to my child and me during the trial? _____
- Can I speak to someone else not involved in the trial? _____
- What happens after the trial has ended? Will my child continue on the investigational treatment if it's working well? _____
- Will follow-up care be offered after the trial is over? _____