Clinical Trial Worksheet:
Questions you can ask your doctor and the research study team

Name: 
Healthcare Provider: 
Name of Study: 

Being in a clinical trial can be exciting, and a clinical trial may be a good choice for you or your family member. There are many important questions to ask. Although research studies can give a lot of new information about conditions, not everyone with the same condition will be able to participate in every study.

It is important to think very carefully about a trial and to be sure you understand the goal of the study, the risks of the study, and what your role would be. Remember that clinical trials are supposed to test a new treatment and answer questions about safety.

Although it is natural to hope that a trial might help you, a participant needs to understand that the goal of a clinical trial is not to help you (or any one person in the study). If clinical trials obtain good results and the treatment gets approved, that’s when your doctor would use the treatment to try to help you.

This worksheet gives you an idea of what to talk about with your healthcare provider and with the research study team before deciding to be in a clinical trial. Feel free to add your own questions, too.

Questions to Ask About Clinical Trials:

- What is the purpose (goal) of the study?

- Who is allowed to participate in the trial? (The set of rules that tell who can participate are called inclusion and exclusion criteria.)

- What are my other options for clinical trials?

- What are the possible short-term risks and benefits of the trial?

- What are the possible long-term risks and benefits of the trial?

- Would the research team check on me after the study to look for side effects and long term benefits?
- What kinds of treatments, medical tests, or procedures would I have during the study?

- How long would I need to stay in the study?

- How could being in the study affect my daily life?

- Would I need to travel for the study? Would the study pay for my travel expenses?

- Would I have to pay for any treatment, tests, or other charges? Will insurance cover costs?

- Where can I learn more about the study?

- Can I talk with people who are already in the study?

Other questions I have:

If you decide you want to be in a clinical trial and the research team decides you fit into the study, you will be asked to read and sign a consent form to show you understand the clinical trial and you are willing to participate. Your choice about whether to be in the study is up to you, and you may stop participating in the study at any time, for any reason. Someone from the research team will be available to answer any questions you have about the study before you sign the consent form.

More details about deciding whether to participate in a clinical trial can be found at: www.duchenneconnect.org

Adapted from: http://www.cancer.org/docroot/docroot/home/index.asp