Clinical Trial Discussion Checklist

Clinical trials can offer important treatment opportunities, but it's normal to have questions before deciding. This checklist is designed to help you navigate conversations with your care team and feel confident in your choices.

Note: Some questions may be covered in your consent form, and not all will apply to you. This checklist can help you have informed discussions with your care team before deciding on a clinical trial. Bring it to appointments to make sure all your questions are answered.

About the Clinical Trial

- ☐ What is the goal of the trial?
- ☐ What treatment is being tested, and how does it compare with my current options?
- ☐ What phase is the trial in, and what does that mean for safety and effectiveness?
- ☐ Why might this trial be a good option for me?
- ☐ How long will participation last?
- ☐ Can I leave the trial at any time, and how will my care be managed if I do?
- ☐ If I decide not to join now, could I join later?
- ☐ Will participating affect my ability to join other trials in the future?

Eligibility

- ☐ What tests or assessments are required to confirm eligibility?
- ☐ Are any of these tests beyond my usual medical care?
- ☐ If I don't qualify, are there other similar trials I could consider?

Treatment

- ☐ How does this treatment differ from standard care, and has it been tested before?
- ☐ Will I know which treatment I'm receiving, and could I receive a placebo (inactive treatment)?
- ☐ Can I continue my current treatment, and could the trial treatment interact with my medications or therapies?
- ☐ What are the expected benefits, risks, and side effects?
- ☐ How will we know if the treatment is working?

Daily Life and Routine

- ☐ How might participating in the trial affect my daily life, work, or travel?
- ☐ Will I need to change my diet, exercise, or other routines?

Costs, Reimbursement and Travel

- ☐ What costs might I have, and will my insurance cover them?
- ☐ Are travel, parking, or accommodation expenses reimbursed?
- ☐ Are financial assistance or reimbursement programs available?
- ☐ Where is the trial conducted, how long will visits take, and how often will I need to travel?
- ☐ Can any visits, procedures, or tests be done locally to reduce travel?

Care, Monitoring and Support

- ☐ Who will coordinate my care during the trial, and can my regular doctor or specialist remain involved?
- ☐ How will my safety, comfort, and well-being be monitored?
- ☐ Who should I contact if I feel unwell or have concerns?
- ☐ What support is available for me and my family or caregivers during the trial?

Decision Support

- ☐ Are there reliable websites, patient organizations, or support groups where I can get more information?
- ☐ Can I get a second opinion before deciding whether to join the trial?

Privacy and Use of Information

- ☐ Who will have access to my personal and medical information?
- ☐ Can anyone outside the trial know that I am participating?
- ☐ How will my medical data or biological samples be used or shared?
- ☐ Will my information be used in future research, and will I be informed about it?

After the Trial

- ☐ If I leave the trial early or the treatment doesn't work, what are my care options and next steps?
- ☐ What follow-up care will I receive, and can I continue the treatment if it is effective?
- ☐ Will I be told the results of the trial?

Ask An Expert

We know you have lots of questions, which is why we created our Ask An Expert service. We have a team of medical specialists ready to answer questions between your doctor's appointments and provide information to help patients and families make informed decisions about care and treatment options for this disease. This service is free to use and available no matter your location.

Learn more on our website:
https://pancreaticcancercanada.ca/patient-and-family-support/ask-an-expert/