

Informed Consent

Here are some things the medical consentor should discuss with the doctor:

- ☐ What is the child's diagnosis and symptoms?
- ☐ How will the psychotropic medication help the child?
- ☐ Does the medication have risks?
- ☐ Are there alternatives such as options that do not require the child to take a psychotropic medication?

Other Questions to Ask the Doctor

- ☐ What is the name of the medication? Is it known by other names?
- ☐ What is the recommended dosage? How often will the medication be taken?
- ☐ How effective has it been for other children who have a similar condition to the child?
- ☐ How will the medication help the child? How long before I see improvement?
- ☐ Is this medication approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for the child's condition? If not, (i.e., it is being prescribed "off-label"), why is this medicine being recommended?
- ☐ What are the side effects that occur with this medication and how will I know if the child is experiencing any of these effects?
- ☐ Is this medication addictive? Can it be abused?
- ☐ Does the child need laboratory tests (e.g. heart tests, blood tests, etc.) before taking the medication? Does the child need any tests while taking the medication?
- ☐ Will a child and adolescent psychiatrist monitor the child's response to the medication and change the dose if necessary? Who will check the child's progress and how often?
- ☐ Does the child need to avoid other medications or foods while taking this medication?
- ☐ Does this medication interact with other medications (prescription and/or over-the-counter) the child is taking?