TO BE PRINTED ON LOCAL TRUST HEADED PAPER

**OLDER CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON INFORMATION SHEET**

**Trial Title**

**Eculizumab in Shiga-toxin producing E.Coli Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (ECUSTEC): A Randomised, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial**

**Invitation to take part in this research trial**

We would like to invite you to take part in our research trial. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others and your doctor if you wish. Ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

**Part A**

**Summary of this research trial**

Your illness, STEC HUS, can cause the kidneys to suddenly fail or stop working properly, and can cause serious complications in other parts of the body in rare cases. Most people fully recover from STEC HUS, but some will have long-term health problems. Eculizumab is a medicine that blocks a part of the immune system that seems to play a part in causing STEC HUS. Some doctors have given eculizumab to people with severe STEC HUS but it is difficult to see whether it worked. We are testing eculizumab in a trial to see if it can make STEC HUS better.

134 children and young people with STEC HUS will be selected by kidney specialists at children’s kidney units around the UK. To test whether giving eculizumab works in STEC HUS, half the patients will receive active eculizumab and half will receive dummy eculizumab. One dose will be given within 48 hours of arriving at the kidney unit and a second dose of the same medicine will be given a week later. Information about each child’s progress over the following 12 months will be collected by the team at the children’s kidney unit and sent to the ECUSTEC trial co-ordination centre at the Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit (BCTU).

**Thank you for reading so far – if you are still interested, please read the rest of this leaflet which gives more detailed information about the trial and what will happen if you decide that you will take part**

**Why have you been chosen?**

Your kidney doctor thinks that your illness is STEC HUS (it can take a few weeks to be certain and your doctor makes the diagnosis based on your symptoms and blood test results).

**Do I have to take part?**

No, taking part in the research is entirely up to you. If you do take part, you can pull out at any time without giving a reason. If you don’t take part or if you pull out it won’t affect your care in any way.

**Why are doctors doing this trial?**

We are testing eculizumab to see if it can make STEC HUS better, for example result in less time on artificial kidney support or fewer children or young people developing complications in other parts of the body.

**What is the medicine that is being tested?**

Eculizumab is a medicine that blocks part of the immune system called complement that seems to play a part in causing STEC HUS. It is very effective in a related condition called atypical HUS.

**What other medicines could I have instead?**

People with STEC HUS benefit from supportive care (such as artificial kidney treatment) but there is no treatment that is proven to make the underlying illness better.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

Anyone joining a research trial such as this has very close monitoring, which is helpful for your health. The information we get from the trial may help us to improve the treatment of all children and young people with STEC HUS in the future.

**Is there anything else to be worried about if I take part?**

If eculizumab doesn’t work for STEC HUS, those having eculizumab will have risk of side-effects with no benefit. All those taking part will have the risk of side effects from the antibiotics and vaccines used to prevent serious infection.

**What are the side effects of the medicine and might I have some if I take part in the trial?**

Most people tolerate eculizumab well. Allergic reactions are uncommon. Some people have had stomach upsets, cough, loss of appetite, runny nose, sore throat, headache, dizziness, tiredness, altered taste, pain in the joints or muscles, relatively few platelets in blood (thrombocytopenia), low white blood cell count (leukopenia), hair loss, itching, rash and flu-like symptoms on eculizumab treatment. People with STEC HUS may develop many of these symptoms during the usual course of their illness.

**Eculizumab treatment may temporarily reduce your natural protection from infections, especially against “meningococcus”, a bug that causes meningitis (infection of the linings of the brain). The risk of this infection is very low but to keep it as low as possible we will give you antibiotics and vaccination (an injection) against meningococcus. We will also give you advice about what signs to look out for and what to do if you are worried you may have meningococcal infection.**

**What will happen to me if I take part?**

Half the children or young people in the trial will receive two doses of eculizumab and half will receive two doses of placebo (dummy medicine) so that we can compare how each group does. If you decide to take part in the trial a computer will decide whether you receive eculizumab or placebo – a bit like tossing a coin. Neither you nor your doctor will know whether you have been given the eculizumab or the placebo, though this information can be found out if it is absolutely essential in an emergency. This is to make the trial the best possible test of which treatment is better.

The first injection will be given within 48 hours of you arriving at the children’s kidney unit. You will receive a second injection of the same treatment (eculizumab or dummy) a week later.

The trial team will check how you are doing every day until you go home from hospital and then at 1, 2, 6 and 12 months from enrolment to see how you are doing. This is similar to the usual hospital visits you would make after having STEC HUS.

We would like to take some extra blood and urine tests to understand more about what causes STEC HUS. We would only take a small amount of blood, and only when you need a blood test for your routine monitoring. If you want to take part but don’t want to have these extra blood samples taken, that is okay.

Eculizumab gives a very small risk of developing a serious infection. We will make sure everyone in the trial (whether you are given eculizumab or dummy) gets extra protection from this infection with antibiotics and vaccination (an injection).

We will ask your parent/guardian to complete two confidential short questionnaires about your quality of life several times during the trial, which should take less than 20 minutes each time.

The rest of your treatment will be the usual treatment for STEC HUS.

**Potential harm to an unborn child**

***For Girls***

The effect of eculizumab on the development of a baby in the womb is currently unknown. Therefore, if you have started your periods it is important not to become pregnant during this trial. You can talk to your trial doctor confidentially if you want more information about this.

***For Boys***

The effects of eculizumab on sperm are unknown. If you are a sexually active male, it is important that your partner(s) does not become pregnant while you are in the trial. You can talk to your trial doctor confidentially if you want more information about this.

**Supporting information**

**What if new information about the trial medicine comes along?**

Sometimes during the course of a trial, new information is found out about the trial medicine. If this happens, your doctor will tell you about it and discuss with you whether you want to continue in the trial.

**What will happen if I do not want to carry on with the trial?**

You can decide not to continue with trial at any time but, if you do, we would still like to follow-up your progress and your data would remain on file and be included in the final trial analysis unless you request that they should not be.

**Will anyone else know I’m doing this?**

If you decide to take part in the ECUSTEC trial, all information which is collected about you will be kept in confidence. This means we will only tell those who have a need or right to know. Information about your illness will be sent by your doctors to the ECUSTEC trial office where it will be securely stored. Your GP and the other doctors involved in your care will be informed. If you agree, your medical records may be looked at by authorised individuals from the Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit or your hospital. They may also be looked at by the trial team and regulatory authorities. The purpose of this is to check that the trial is being carried out correctly.

The manufacturers of eculizumab (Alexion Pharmaceuticals) are required by law to make sure that people receiving eculizumab are adequately protected against meningococcal disease. The trial team will let them know about all participants and if any serious adverse events occur. In all communication with the manufacturer you will only be identified by your unique trial number.

**What if there is a problem or something goes wrong?**

If you have a concern about anything to do with this trial, you should ask to speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions. The contact details for the ECUSTEC Chief Investigator are: Dr Sally Johnson, Telephone 0191 282 4917. If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally, you can do this through the NHS Complaints Procedure. Details can be obtained from the hospital. Taking part in this trial would not affect your legal rights. If you are harmed due to someone’s negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action.

**What happens when the research trial stops?**

At the end of the trial the results will be analysed and published in a scientific journal and used to help us to improve the treatment of children and young people with STEC HUS in the future. Your doctor can provide you with a copy of this publication if you are interested. We will also publicise the results on the trial’s website. Your name will not appear in any report, presentation or publication. When the results have been published you can be told whether you received eculizumab or placebo if you are interested.

**What will happen to the blood and urine samples I give?**

The research blood and urine samples will be sent to the University of Bristol (Professor Moin Saleem’s laboratory). Scientists in Bristol, Newcastle and Cardiff will look at these samples to understand more about STEC HUS. This includes looking at your DNA (your genes). If you agree, any left-over DNA samples will be kept in the laboratory for use in more research into STEC HUS in the future, as long as the research has Research Ethics Committee approval. Your DNA sample will be identified only by your trial number and month/year of birth; the sample will not be labelled with any personal information.

**Who is organising and funding the research?**

The ECUSTEC trial is a big joint effort. On the ground work is co-ordinated by Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit. The Sponsor (responsible for the overall conduct of the trial) is Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The Chief Investigator is Dr Sally Johnson at the Great North Children’s Hospital. The trial is supported by the British Association for Paediatric Nephrology and the Children Specialty of the UK Clinical Research Network. The trial is being funded by National Institute for Health Research, Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme (NIHR EME). Funding for the eculizumab is provided by the NHS, not the manufacturer. The research has been reviewed and approved by all these organisations. Your doctor will not be paid for including you in this trial. The research is also supported by Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome Help (HUSH) - The UK E-coli Support Group (http://www.ecoli-uk.com).

**Who has reviewed the trial?**

All research in the NHS is looked at by an independent group of people called a Research Committee to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. This trial has been reviewed and given favourable opinion by North East – Newcastle and North Tyneside 1 Research Ethics Committee. Research Ethics Committees include healthcare professionals as well as non-medical people, and are completely independent from anyone organising the trial.

**Where can I get further information?**

General information about STEC HUS can be found at [www.infokid.org.uk/STEC-HUS](http://www.infokid.org.uk/STEC-HUS) and at [www.ecoli-uk.com](http://www.ecoli-uk.com).

For queries about the trial or for further information please contact:

Dr Sally Johnson, Telephone 0191 282 4917, ECUSTEC Chief Investigator

<Insert Local PI Name>, Telephone <Insert Local PI Tel. No.>, ECUSTEC Principal Local Investigator

The ECUSTEC trial co-ordinating centre is located at the Birmingham Clinical Trials Unit, College of Medical & Dental Sciences, Institute of Applied Health Research, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT. Tel 0121 415 9132, Fax: 0121 415 9135, Web address: www.birmingham.ac.uk/ECUSTEC.

**Thank you for considering your participation in this trial**

**You will be given a copy of this information sheet and a signed consent form to keep if you decide that you wish to take part in the trial.**