

## **"English" Version of Patient Consent Form**

The intent of this consent is to be clear on Dr. Neuenschwander's approach to the biomedical treatment of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), attention deficit (ADHD), or related disorders. The salient points of the consent (in plain English) are:

- The "standard" model of ASD is that it is a genetically programmed psychiatric disorder. Therefore, the only treatment is to use behavioral/cognitive techniques and psychiatric medications. Even though the original description of autism included many physical symptoms, these are felt to be unimportant in the treatment of ASD. While Dr. Neu agrees that there are many genetic components that are at play in ASD and related disorders, the manifestation of these genetic mutations are affected by environmental factors in the vast majority of children with ASD and related disorders.
- We ask that parents/caretakers be somewhat familiar with the biomedical approach. A number of books/references are listed. We do not expect you to read and memorize all these sources. They are listed so that you can become informed prior to your visit.
- The treatment protocols used by Dr. Neu are listed. None of the treatments are accepted by the "powers that be" in pediatrics as treatments for ASD. These treatments are used both diagnostically and therapeutically. Although we have many tests at our disposal, frequently the only way to determine if a treatment will be helpful is to try the treatment first (diagnostic trial). If it helps, we continue that treatment (therapeutic use).
- The protocols mentioned are always in addition to the behavioral and cognitive treatments. We do not currently offer these type of treatments at BEMC.
- Finally, the consent mentions that any treatments that are undertaken prior to officially signing the consent are done with the elements of the consent form in place.

If you have any questions about the consent form or our approach, please do not hesitate to contact us at the above numbers.