SJPI3K Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is SJPI3K study enrollment before or after radiation therapy?
A. Study enrollment is after initial diagnosis and before radiation therapy.

Q. Is a biopsy required for the trial?
A. If your child’s tumor is considered to be a typical-appearing DIPG, a biopsy is not required. If findings on the MRI and/or the symptoms your child is experiencing are inconsistent with DIPG, then a biopsy is required. If your child has a tumor located outside of the part of the brain stem called the pons, a biopsy or surgery is required to confirm the tumor has an “H3 K27M” mutation.

Q. Does GDC-0084 get into the brain?
A. Yes, GDC-0084 was designed specifically to cross the blood brain barrier. Studies in animals as well as human patients suggest this chemotherapy is able to penetrate into the brain.

Q. How is GDC-0084 administered?
A. GDC-0084 is a capsule that will be taken by mouth once daily.

Q. What if my child is unable to swallow a capsule?
A. If your child is medically able to swallow capsules, but currently has difficulty swallowing capsules, our child life team will work with him/her to practice pill-swallowing. In order to qualify for stratum A1, he/she will need to master this skill.

If your child is unable to swallow capsules, he/she may qualify for stratum A2 of this study. This stratum allows for the capsule to be opened and mixed with applesauce.

Q. Can my child receive proton beam radiation therapy as part of this study?
A. Proton therapy may be used, based on the recommendation of the treating radiation oncologist. However, patients with a typical-appearing DIPG are generally treated with photon radiation therapy.

Q. Will we be able to go home while enrolled on this study?
A. Yes. We have designed the SJPI3K study to maximize your time at home.

Your child is only required to visit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital during study enrollment (approximately 2 weeks), radiation therapy (6 weeks), the first course (28 days) of GDC-0084 therapy, and once every 8 weeks for a brief visit for scans and follow-up.

You will also be able to return home during the 4-week break between radiation therapy and the start of GDC-0084 therapy.

Q. Will I have any doctor visits while at home?
A. Yes, you will be required to visit your local doctor periodically for routine labs.