

***“GIST is a rare condition  
which no-one should have to  
cope with alone”***

***We offer support to other  
patients, by email,  
telephone, and face-to-face***

## ***The Patient Angle on Adjuvant Trials***

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## **PLUSSES**

- ❖ I would be helping to increase our understanding of my cancer, and this might help others in years to come
- ❖ I would have a 50% chance of getting a very expensive drug which might stop me getting a recurrence
- ❖ I would get the best possible follow-up, so if I did have problems they would be found early

## **MINUSES**

- ❖ If I'm feeling fine, so why risk taking a drug which usually has some side effects?
- ❖ If I do get the drug, I must watch what I eat.
- ❖ If I do get the drug, I must be very careful not to get pregnant.
- ❖ I will have to have more CTs and a higher radiation dose.
- ❖ I will have more hospital visits, and these are an effort, time-consuming and expensive.
- ❖ If I take the drug now, would it work if I needed it later?

## HOW DO I DECIDE?

- ❖ I need to have the whole thing explained very carefully, so I know everything that can be known about this trial.
- ❖ I need to feel that I can chat to the team as often as I want to, when new questions come to me.
- ❖ I don't want to feel rushed into a decision.
- ❖ I need to have time to talk to my partner, family and friends, as well as the research team.
- ❖ It could also be helpful to talk to someone who is knowledgeable about the trial, but who is not part of the research team.
- ❖ I have to be happy with the decision from an ethical standpoint too. Should I put my own life first, or would that be being selfish? Can I live with that?