

# ***A Study to Evaluate an Agent to Enhance Visualization and Resection of Malignant Glial Tumors of the Brain***

*Division: Oncology / Pediatric Surgery  
Principal Investigator: John Ruge, M.D.*

## **What is the purpose of the study?**

The purpose of this study is to determine the safety and effectiveness of an agent, 5-aminolevulinic acid (ALA), for identifying a patient's tumor during surgery. ALA is found naturally in the body. As a drug, it is taken up by malignant tumor cells. When the surgeon shines a violet-blue light on the tumor during surgery, the tumor appears as fluorescent red. This technology can help the surgeon achieve a more extensive removal of the tumor.

## **Who is eligible to participate in the study?**

Patients with clinically documented brain tumors for which resection is indicated may be eligible to participate in this study.

## **What does the study involve?**

This study involves collecting blood samples from participants before and during surgery and drinking the ALA dye 3 hours prior to surgery. All other procedures and care are the same as would be done if the individual was not in the study.

## **What are the benefits?**

There are no guarantees of direct benefits for research participants. It is hoped that information learned from the study will benefit other patients with brain cancer in the future.

## **What are the risks?**

As with all drugs, there are possible side effects. The research study team will discuss all risks with interested participants prior to enrolling in the study.

## **Is there any compensation for participating?**

There is no compensation for participation in this study.

## **How will I get more information about the study?**

Interested parents will discuss the study with a member of the research team and will be given a parent permission / consent form that further explains all of the details of the study. Study procedures will not be started until the parent(s) fully understands what is involved in the study and has signed a parent permission/ consent form.

**Status:** Recruiting

**Site(s):** Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital

## **Who should I contact for more information?**

Denise Fleig, MSN, APN, PCNS-BC

847-723-5105

[denise.fleig@advocatehealth.com](mailto:denise.fleig@advocatehealth.com)