

Medical Visit Planner

Sample questions to ask your provider to help you understand your diagnosis and treatment.

•	What is the goal of my treatment?
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•	What is the best way to treat my stage and type of cancer?
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•	How successful can I expect this treatment to be?
•	Are there other treatment options? If yes, what are they?
•	Why have you chosen this treatment plan for my cancer?
•	If I choose not to have this treatment, what will happen?
•	How will I feel during treatment?

•	Are there any medications I can take to manage side effects? When do I take them?
	How long will my treatment last?
	What kinds of changes in my daily life will I have to make while I'm going through these treatments?
	Will I be able to continue to work or take care of my other responsibilities?
	How will you know that the treatment is working?
	What side effects should I expect?
	What can I do before starting treatment to help prevent side effects?
	What can I do during treatment to help prevent side effects?

• If pain is involved, how can I prevent or relieve it?



What side effects should I report to you right away if they occur?
Are there changes I should make to my diet? Can I drink alcohol?
• Will the treatment make me lose my hair? If so, will it grow back?
• Is there a chance that, once treated, the cancer will come back? How will I know if it does?
How often, and for how long, will I have to see a doctor for follow-up visits?
• Is a person living with cancer, are there services I can find in the hospital and the community (ie, counseling, support groups, educational meetings, etc)?
• If I need emotional or professional support, can you provide me with a list of therapists or support groups?
What will the treatment cost? If I have trouble paying, can I get help?