DISCUSSION GUIDE





QUESTIONS ABOUT TREATMENT

Everyone's body may respond differently to treatment so it's important for you to discuss your own experience with your doctor. Depending on where you are in your treatment journey, different questions may come up.

Before treatment:

Why do I need this treatment?
What information did you consider when choosing this treatment?
How does this treatment work?
How is this treatment taken and how often?
How effective is this treatment?
How long can I expect to be on this treatment?
What are the possible side effects of this treatment?
Are there any symptoms or side effects I should tell you about immediately?
What can I do to manage side effects?



Before treatment: (cont'd)

How might I feel while I'm on this treatment? Will I be able to work? Can I still care for my family?

Will this treatment affect my lifestyle (work, physical activity, etc)?

What should I avoid while on this treatment?

Will I be taking this treatment in combination with other treatments?

During treatment:

How will I know if this treatment is working? How will you monitor my progress and results?

Are there any tests or scans I will need during this treatment?

When might I expect to see a response?

Are there any special precautions I need to take because of COVID-19?

Finishing treatment:

How will you decide when to stop this treatment?

What do I do if I experience symptoms of my disease again? How will you monitor for that?

What happens if I don't respond to this treatment?

Will I still be monitored once my treatment is complete?

Sometimes it can feel uncomfortable asking questions but remember, your mental health is just as important as your physical health. Talk to your doctor about how you're feeling. They may be able to help find resources or provide a referral to help you cope.

Who can I talk to about all the feelings I'm having?
What are some ways I can manage my worry and stress?
What resources are available that may help with my daily needs?
Who can I talk to about managing my fears about cancer?
Where can I find information on support groups?
Will I ever feel like myself again?
How do I talk to my employer about what I'm going through?
How do I talk to my friends or family about my treatment?

There is no such thing as too many questions when it comes to your health. If you have questions about any challenges you're facing, your doctor may be able to suggest resources and support options.

How often will I have appointments, and how long will they take?

How do I prepare for my appointments? Can I bring someone with me to my appointments? Are there special rules I need to follow because of COVID-19?

Is there a support program if I need help paying for treatment?

What do I do if I don't have insurance? Is there someone I can talk to?

What do I do if I lose my insurance?

For after-hours questions or emergencies, who should I contact, and how can I contact them?

Can I pick up my prescription from my local pharmacy?

Who could help if I have trouble getting a ride to appointments?

