



Cancer Reference Information

Overview: Breast Cancer

What Are Some Questions I Can Ask My Doctor?

As you cope with cancer and cancer treatment, we encourage you to have honest, open discussions with your doctor. Feel free to ask any question that's on your mind, no matter how small it might seem. Here are some questions you might want to ask. Be sure to add your own questions as you think of them. Nurses, social workers, and other members of the treatment team may also be able to answer many of your questions.

- Would you please write down the exact type of cancer I have?
- May I have a copy of my pathology report?
- Has my cancer spread to lymph nodes or other organs?
- What is the stage of my cancer? What does that mean in my case?
- What treatment choices do I have? What do you recommend? Why?
- What are the risks or side effects of different treatments?
- Will I lose my hair? If so, what can I do about it?
- How long will each course of treatment last?
- Will I be out of work? For how long?
- Will I be able to drive myself home after treatment or will I need help?
- What are the chances of my cancer coming back with the treatment you suggest?
- Should I follow a special diet?
- What kinds of breast reconstruction are possible in my case?
- Will I go through menopause as a result of my treatment?
- Will I be able to have children after my treatment?
- What should I do to get ready for treatment?
- Will I have normal feeling in my breasts after treatment?
- What are my chances of survival, based on my cancer as you see it?

Add your own questions below:

Revised: 09/26/2006