



PeopleBeatingCancer

lung cancer coaching program

questions to ask your oncologist



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introduction

Your oncologist is a key member of your care team. Of course you make the final decisions but you need people around you that can provide information, education and make suggestions.

Asking questions of your doctor can help you make more informed decisions about who you choose to be your oncologist. Not only is the information given by the doctor important but how he/she gives you that information is important as well. Open communication between patient and doctor is central to your cancer care going forward. Trust your instincts.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. What kind of lung cancer do I have? Where is the cancer and how far has it spread? What stage is my cancer?
2. How much experience do you have treating my type and stage of lung cancer?
3. How successful have you been in treating patients with my type and stage of lung cancer?
4. What treatment do you recommend? Why?
5. What are the goals of treatment?
6. What are the side effects? What would help make them less of a problem?
7. Would newer types of medicine, such as targeted therapy and immunotherapy, also help me?
8. Can I add complementary therapies to my treatment?
9. How accurate are diagnostic tests for lung cancer?
10. What comes after my cancer treatment?
11. Can you recommend colleagues for a second opinion?