

Breast Cancer - Inflammatory - Questions to Ask the Doctor

This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board \[1\]](#), April / 2010

Questions to Ask the Doctor

Regular communication with your doctor is important in making informed decisions about your health care. Consider asking the following questions of your doctor:

- What type of breast cancer do I have?
- What is the stage of my cancer?
- Can you explain my pathology report (laboratory test results) to me?
- What are my options for treatment?
- What clinical trials are open to me?
- Who will be part of my health care team, and what does each member do?
- Who is going to help coordinate my treatment and follow-up care?
- What treatment do you recommend? Why?
- What are the possible side effects of this treatment, both in the short term and the long term?
- How will this treatment affect my daily life? Will I be able to work, exercise, and perform my usual activities?
- If I'm worried about managing the costs related to my cancer care, who can help me with these concerns?
- Could this treatment affect my fertility (ability to have children in the future)? If so, are there other treatments available that do not pose as high a risk to my fertility but are equally effective?
- What are the chances that the cancer be successfully treated?
- How can I keep myself as healthy as possible during treatment?
- Now that you have examined me, am I a good candidate for reconstruction?
- What types of breast reconstruction options do I have?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each type?
- What are the chances the cancer will come back after treatment?
- Whom do I call for questions or problems?
- What follow-up tests will I need, and how often will I need them?
- What support services are available to me? To my family?

For additional questions, see the [Guide to Breast Cancer \[2\]](#).

Links:

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>

[2] <http://www.cancer.net/node/18618>