Printed October 13, 2015 from http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/breast-cancer-inflammatory/questions-ask-doctor

Breast Cancer - Inflammatory - Questions to Ask the Doctor [1]

This section has been reviewed and approved by the Cancer.Net Editorial Board [2], 08/2014

ON THIS PAGE: You will find some questions to ask your doctor or other members of your health care team, to help you better understand your diagnosis, treatment plan, and overall care. To see other pages, use the menu on the side of your screen.

Talking often with the doctor is important [3] to make informed decisions about your health care. These suggested questions are a starting point to help you learn more about your cancer care and treatment. You are also encouraged to ask additional questions that are important to you. You may want to print this list and bring it to your child?s next appointment, or download Cancer.Net?s free mobile app [4] for an e-list and other interactive tools to manage your child?s care.

- 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 treatment options?
- What clinical trials are open to me? Where are they located, and how do I find out more about them?
- What treatment plan do you recommend? Why?
- What is the goal of each treatment? Is it to eliminate the cancer, help me feel better, or both?
- 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?
- 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?
- What follow-up tests will I need, and how often will I need them?
- What support services are available to me? To my family?
- Whom should I call for questions or problems?
- 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?

- Could this treatment affect my sex life? If so, how and for how long?
- Could this treatment affect my ability to become pregnant or have children? If so, should I talk with a fertility specialist before cancer treatment begins?

For additional questions, see the Guide to Breast Cancer [5].

The next section offers some more resources that may be helpful to you. Use the menu on the side of your screen to select Additional Resources, or you can select another section, to continue reading this guide.

Links:
[1] http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/breast-cancer-inflammatory/questions-ask-doctor
[2] http://www.cancer.net/about-us
[3] http://www.cancer.net/node/24958
[4] http://www.cancer.net/node/29951
[5] http://www.cancer.net/node/18631