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PDF generated on July 22, 2016 from

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## **Ewing Sarcoma - Childhood - Questions to Ask the Doctor** **[1]**

**This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#) [2], 05/2015**

**ON THIS PAGE:** You will find some questions to ask your child's doctor or other members of the health care team to help you better understand your child's 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 child's health care. These suggested questions are a starting point to help you learn more about your child's cancer care and treatment. You are also encouraged to ask additional questions that are important to you and your family. 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.

### **Questions to ask after getting a diagnosis**

- What type of Ewing tumor has been diagnosed?
- Where exactly is the tumor located?
- Can you explain the pathology report (laboratory test results) to me?
- What stage is the cancer? What does this mean?

## Questions to ask about choosing a treatment and managing side effects

- What are my child's treatment options?
- What clinical trials are open to my child? 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 my child feel better, or both?
- What are the possible side effects of each treatment, both in the short term and the long term?
- Who will be part of my child's health care team, and what does each member do?
- Who will be coordinating my child's overall treatment?
- Does this center specialize in the treatment of children, adolescents, and young adults with cancer?
- How will treatment affect my child's daily life? Will he or she be able to go to school and perform his or her usual activities?
- Could this treatment affect my child's ability to become pregnant or have children in the future? If so, should my family talk with a fertility specialist before treatment begins?
- If I'm worried about managing the costs related to cancer care, who can help me with these concerns?
- What support services are available to my child? To the rest of my family?
- Whom should I call for questions or problems?

- Is there anything else I should be asking?

## **Questions to ask about having chemotherapy**

- What chemotherapy will my child receive?
- What is the goal of this treatment?
- Where will my child receive chemotherapy? At a hospital, clinic, or home?
- How often will my child receive this treatment?
- How long will it take to give this treatment?
- What side effects can we expect during treatment?
- What are the possible long-term effects of having this treatment?
- What can be done to prevent or manage these side effects?
- How can I best prepare my child for each treatment?

## **Questions to ask about having radiation therapy**

- Will my child receive radiation therapy?
- What is the goal of this treatment?
- How long will it take to give this treatment?
- What side effects can we expect during treatment?
- What are the possible long-term effects of having this treatment?

- What can be done to prevent or manage these side effects?

## **Questions to ask about having surgery**

- Will my child need to have surgery?
- What type of surgery do you recommend? Why?
- How long will the operation take?
- How long will my child need to stay in the hospital?
- Can you describe what my child's recovery from surgery will be like?
- What are the possible long-term effects of having this surgery?

## **Questions to ask about planning follow-up care**

- What is the risk of the cancer returning? Are there signs and symptoms we should watch for?
- Is there anything my child can do to reduce his or her risk of getting another type of cancer?
- What long-term side effects or late effects are possible based on the cancer treatment my child received?
- If needed, what types of rehabilitative services are available?
- What follow-up tests will my child need, and how often will he or she need them?
- How do I get a treatment summary and survivorship care plan to keep in my child's personal records?

- Who will be coordinating my child's follow-up care?
- What survivorship support services are available to my child? To my family?

*The [next section in this guide is Additional Resources](#) [5], and it offers some more resources on this website beyond this guide that may be helpful to you and your family. Or, use the menu on the side of your screen to choose another section to continue reading this guide.*

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### **Links**

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/ewing-sarcoma-childhood/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/18810>