

Leukemia - Chronic Myeloid - CML - 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 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 next appointment, or download Cancer.Net's free mobile app [4] for an e-list and other interactive tools to help manage your care.

- What is my diagnosis?
- Can you explain my pathology report (laboratory test results) to me?
- What phase is the CML in?
- Can you recommend a leukemia specialist?
- Where is the best place for me to be treated?
- What are my options for treatment?
- 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 are the pros and cons of each option?
- Am I a candidate for an ALLO stem cell transplantation, and when should it be considered?
- What is the goal of each treatment? Is it to eliminate the leukemia, help me feel better, or both?
- Do I need to start treatment right away?
- Will the medicine for CML interfere with any of my other medications?
- Who will be part of my health care team, and what does each member do?
- Who will be coordinating my overall treatment and follow-up care?
- What is my chance of remission and long-term benefit, including cure?
- What are the possible side effects of this treatment, both in the short term and long term?
- If I experience too many side effects, can I switch to a different treatment?
- How will this treatment affect my daily life? Will I be able to work, exercise, and perform my

usual activities?

- Could this treatment affect my sex life? If so, how and for how long?
- Can I stop TKI treatment to start a family? What if my partner and I conceive while I am taking a TKI?
- What are the risks of trying to conceive a child while taking a TKI?
- If I am worried about managing the costs related to my cancer care, who can help me with these concerns?
- What support services are available to me? To my family?
- Whom should I call for questions or problems?
- How will the results of my treatment be monitored? What follow-up tests will I need, and how often will I need them?

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/leukemia-chronic-myeloid-cml/questions-ask-doctor>
- [2] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>
- [3] <http://www.cancer.net/node/24958>
- [4] <http://www.cancer.net/node/29951>