# Meningioma - Questions to Ask the Doctor

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Questions to Ask the Doctor

**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 in this guide, use the colored boxes on the right side of your screen, or click ?Next? at the bottom.

Talking often with the doctor is important [2] 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 [3] for an e-list and other interactive tools to manage your care.

- What type of meningioma do I have? Is it benign or malignant?
- What is the grade of the tumor? What does this mean?
- How many patients with this type of tumor do you treat each year?
- Do you attend expert meetings to discuss complicated tumor cases? What kinds of specialists attend such meetings?
- Can you explain my pathology report (laboratory test results) to me?
- Will an experienced neuropathologist (a doctor who specializes in the diagnosis of diseases of the nervous system by studying tissue under a microscope) review my pathology slides?
- Is any special genetic testing needed?
- What are my treatment options?
- What clinical trials are open to me?
- What treatment plan do you recommend? Why?
- What is the goal of each treatment? Is it to eliminate the tumor, help me feel better, or both?
- When should I start treatment?
- Should I get a second opinion?
- Where will my treatment take place? Are there CNS tumor centers of excellence that you recommend?
- Who will be part of my health care team, and what role does each person have?
- Who will be coordinating my overall treatment and follow-up care?
- 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, drive, and perform my usual activities?
- 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 treatment begins?
- If I?m worried about managing the costs related to my medical care, who can help me with these concerns?
- What follow-up tests will I need, and how often will I need them?
- What support services are available to me? To my family?
- Do you work with a social worker that assists patients with CNS tumors?
- Do you know of a local support group for patients with CNS tumors?
- Do you have reading material that would help me understand my disease?
- Who answers patient questions when you are unavailable?
- Is there a topic we haven?t covered that you usually cover with your patients?
- Do my family members have a higher risk of developing meningioma?
- Whom should I call for questions or problems?

*To continue reading this guide, choose ?Next? (below, right) to see some additional resources that may be helpful to you. Or, use the colored boxes located on the right side of your screen to visit any section.*

**Links:**
[1] http://www.cancer.net/about-us
[2] http://www.cancer.net/node/24958
[3] http://www.cancer.net/node/25555