

Questions for Your Physician

To help you prepare for your appointments, below are some sample questions to ask your physician and help you better understand your situation and options. Don't be afraid to take notes and tell your breast care team when you don't understand. It's your body and your breasts.

1. What kind of breast cancer do I have?
2. What is the stage of my breast cancer and what does that mean?
3. Were any marker tests done on my tumor? If so, what were the results? How do these results affect my treatment options?
4. What type of doctors should I see? When should I see them?
5. How can I get a copy of my pathology report?
6. Will my lymph nodes (located under the arm) be removed?
7. What tests will I have before surgery to see if the cancer has spread to any other organs? When will the tests be done?
8. What is my prognosis (chance for recovery from treatment)?
9. What are the chances that my cancer will come back or that I will develop another type of cancer?
10. How much experience do you have treating this type of cancer?
11. Will I need other tests before we can decide on treatment?
12. What are my treatment choices?
13. What treatment do you recommend and why?
14. Should I get a second opinion? How do I do that?
15. What support resources are there in the community, and at Hoag?