

Questions to ask about your treatment options

Working with your healthcare team

If you need to choose between treatment options, here are some important questions to have answered before you decide:

- What are the **possible treatments**?

- What are the **advantages** and **disadvantages** of each treatment option?

- What **other effects** may occur?

- How will this treatment make me **feel**?

- How **long** will the treatment take and **how often** does it have to be done?

- How **likely** is it that the treatment will work for me?

- What **results** can I expect? Are there any other **options**?

Some important questions to ask before undergoing any treatment:

- Do I really **need** this test, treatment, or procedure?
- What are the **downsides**?
- Are there simpler or safer **options**? Can you explain these to me?
- Will my insurance/benefits cover this treatment? Are there similar options that are more **affordable**?
- What happens if I do **nothing**?
- If this (**possible outcome**) happens, then what should I expect and **what should I do next**?

**Healthcare team refers to patients, their caregivers, and healthcare providers that come together to plan and coordinate a person's care.*

