

Questions to ask your healthcare team

When you are told you have a diagnosis of lung cancer it can be a very difficult and overwhelming time. The following is a list of questions you may want to ask your healthcare team (this may include a Medical Oncologist, Radiation Oncologist, Surgeon, Specialist Lung Cancer Nurse or allied health professional) so that you understand your diagnosis and treatment plan. It is a guide to help you start the conversation and not a complete list of all questions you may need to ask. You may want to have a notebook with you to write answers to your questions and note other important information such as names and phone numbers of your healthcare team. It may also be helpful to have a family member or friend attend appointments with you to help you remember the information discussed.



Support services

- Where can I get more information about lung cancer?
- Is there a specialist lung cancer nurse available?
- Who can I see to get help with practical issues such as support at home, transport and finances?
- Are there allied health professionals such as psychologists and dieticians available to help me?
- Are there support groups available for me and my family?
- Are there any reliable websites I can look at for more information?



Diagnosis

- What type of lung cancer do I have?
- What stage is my lung cancer?
- If my cancer has spread, where else in my body is it?
- Do I need more tests?
- Has my cancer been tested for sub-types including genetic markers?
- What is the average life expectancy of this cancer?
This is an optional question, one that the oncologist can only estimate – you may not want to ask this question and that is ok.
- Is it appropriate for me to be linked with palliative care? Palliative care offers support for symptom management and end of life care. In some situations, palliative care can control symptoms better and help you live longer.



Treatment

- What type of treatment do you recommend for me and why?
- Are there any other options?
- Has my cancer been discussed at a Multidisciplinary Team meeting?
- What is the aim of the recommended treatment?
- What are the possible side effects from my treatments and how can I manage them?
- When do I start treatment?
- How many treatments will I have and how often do I have them?
- How long does each treatment take?
- Are there any clinical trials that are appropriate for me?
- Can I drive to and from treatment?
- Should I bring someone with me?
- Who do I call if I experience side effects at home?
- Am I able to exercise?



**Scan to connect with a
Lung Cancer Specialist Nurse
or call 1800 654 301.**