

I want to know...

What does my diagnosis mean and what can I expect?

- What is my outlook for the future, as you see it?
- How was the diagnosis made?
- Might my diagnosis change?
- How advanced is my illness?
- What are the symptoms I am likely to experience, both now and as my illness progresses?
- What kind of changes will I have to make in my work, family life, sex life, and leisure time?

My other thoughts and questions

Will I get the support I need?

- Where will I be cared for?
- Who will be part of my healthcare team?
Will there be different people involved?
- Will I need any equipment in my home
as my condition progresses?
- What support is available to help me and my family?
- Who should I contact if things get worse?
- Can my family members be involved in decisions?

How long have I got?

- How long am I likely to live for?
- Am I likely to die from this illness?

What will happen when I am dying?

- What will happen to me at the very end?
- How will I actually die?
- Will I be conscious at the end?
- Will I be in pain?

My other thoughts and questions

My priority is...

To live as long as possible

What treatments will enable me to live as long as possible?

Can you slow down the progression of my illness?

To have a good quality of life

Would your recommendation change if I told you that my priority is having a good quality of life, so, living as normally as possible for as long as possible?

How will this illness affect my quality of life?

I like to _____
how can I ensure I get to do these things for as long as possible?

What are the best things I can do to stay as healthy as possible?

I do not want to swap a bad situation for something worse. Could this treatment make me feel worse than my illness already makes me feel?

Treatment decisions

What are my treatment options?

- What are my treatment options? Can you explain the benefits and things I should consider for each one?
- Are there other ways to treat my illness?
- Do I need more than one sort of treatment?
- Is my decision urgent or can I take more time to think about it? What will happen if the treatment is delayed?
- What will the treatment be like? How long will it take?
- If the treatment you are suggesting does not work, or the side effects are bad, what are the other options?
- Where will I have this treatment? Will it be in hospital? How long will I be in there?

My other thoughts and questions

What will this treatment do?

- What is the aim of this treatment? Will it cure the illness or will it just help my symptoms or slow the illness down?
- Are there any risks with this treatment?
- Is there any chance that this treatment will make me worse?
- How will I know if the treatment is working?
- How many people in my situation benefit from this treatment?

Are there side effects?

- Are there any side effects? If there are side effects what are they like, and can anything be done about them?
- If I find the side effects unacceptable can I stop the treatment?

Not having treatment

- What will happen if I choose not to have treatment?
- What is the natural course of my illness if left untreated?

After treatment

- How will I feel after the treatment?
- How long will it take after treatment to recover?
- What will my life be like during and after the treatment?
- I like to _____
will I be able to do these things after this treatment?

Having tests

- What will the results of this test tell me?
- How will the result affect your recommendation for my treatment?
- How will this test help me make a decision about treatment?

My religion and spiritual beliefs

- How can I access spiritual support?
- How can I be supported to ensure any rituals important to me are honoured?
- How can I be referred to a representative of my faith or a Chaplain?

My other thoughts and questions

Things to find out about

- Where can I get counselling?
- Are there any support groups for me and/or my carer?
- What benefits am I entitled to?
- What support is available at home, for example nursing, help with washing and dressing, and help with shopping?
- Will I need practical living aids and equipment, and how can I arrange this?
- Who can I call if I am worried or my health changes?
- I live on my own, so do I need a personal alarm to alert people if I fall or am in trouble?
- Am I entitled to a disabled badge?

My other thoughts and questions
