



Questions for Your Oncologist

- 1 What type of cancer do I have?
- 2 Is my cancer growing fast or slowly?
- 3 What treatment do you recommend?
- 4 Why have you chosen this treatment? How do you know that it is the best one for me?
- 5 Are there any other known treatments for my cancer, in the UK or abroad, that are not available on the NHS, which I could possibly obtain privately? Have you considered these?
- 6 Is the proposed treatment curative or palliative, i.e. will it get rid of the cancer enabling me to have a normal quality and length of life, or will it only extend my life by slowing the growth of the cancer or just improve my quality of life without lengthening it?
- 7 What percentage of people see their cancer coming back after the proposed treatment? How soon does this tend to happen?
- 8 How much time do you think I have to live if I go ahead with your recommended treatment?
- 9 How much time do you think I have to live if I don't go ahead with your recommended treatment?
- 10 What will my quality of life be like during and immediately after treatment? How disruptive and uncomfortable will the treatment be and what side-effects can I expect?
- 11 What are the long-term side effects of the proposed treatment? Could they be life-threatening or leave me permanently disabled or impaired?
- 12 Would you recommend this treatment to wife/husband/child as seems appropriate?
- 13 Are there any diet or lifestyle changes I can make that could improve my quality of life during treatment or make the treatment more effective?
- 14 Can I talk to other patients who have had this treatment before deciding to go ahead?
- 15 How long can I safely wait before making a decision?'