

Questions I wanted to ask...

Visiting the oncologist

Dear patient,

When getting ready for an appointment with **the oncologist**, we recommend that you come equipped with questions you think are important to ask at that meeting.

Below you will find sample questions on various issues. You may use these questions in preparation for your appointment.

We recommend that you arrange your questions in order of importance.

The treatment itself

- Besides the surgery, will I need any additional treatment? If so, which treatment?
- How is the treatment type determined? (hormonal therapy, radiotherapy, chemotherapy)
- What is the recommended order of treatments for me?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each treatment?
- How long will each treatment take?

Treatment side effects

- What are the treatment's expected side effects, of and how should I cope with them?
- Will anything change in my appearance?
- Are there any particular symptoms about which I should immediately notify my caregivers?
- What are the possible functional limitations I might experience during my daily routine?
- Is it worthwhile to bring someone along to treatments?
- I heard it is crucial to care for my teeth before/after treatments. Why?

Maintaining your routine

- Should I avoid people who have a contagious disease or who were given active vaccines?
- Will I be able to keep up my normal routine during this time?
- Will I be able to maintain my work schedule, have intimate relations and so forth?
- Should I change certain habits, such as diet, sleep, or exercise?
- Is exercise recommended? What type? (Does the hospital and/or the medical community offer any suitable exercise programs?)

General:

- Should I seek genetic consultation before deciding on a carrier test, and when?
- Can the presence of a mutation affect the treatment?
- What can I do to preserve my fertility?
- Is complementary medicine conducive to relief and stamina during treatments?
- Is there a support group for women like me?
- Who can I turn to with urgent and non-urgent questions or problems?