

Questions to Ask Your Oncologist

I. Can we go over my pathology report & discuss what you consider the most important findings/considerations dictating my treatment plan?
2. (For those who have more than one tumor): May I have the pathology reports on ALL of the tumors, and can you please explain if the tumors are the same or different? How will this affect the decisions for treatment?
3. What kind of treatment do you recommend?
4. If I need chemo, do I need neoadjuvant chemo or chemo aftersurgery?
5. What type of chemo are you recommending? How often? How many treatments?





6. How long is a chemo treatment?
7. What are the most common side effects I may encounter?
8. Is there anything you recommend that I could do to reduce the side effects?
9. Is there any other chemo protocol that might offer a better overall outcome than what has been traditionally prescribed for my type of cancer? If I was willing to be more aggressive and insurance will cover it, do you recommend another type oftreatment?
10. Can I drive myself to and from chemotreatment?



11. Do I need a port and if so, when will the port be installed? When does it come out?	
12. What can I expect with the port surgery? Is there anesthesia involved and do I have a choice in the type of anesthesia?	
13. Will I be getting a Neulasta shot with every treatment? Due to the distance I have to travel, is it possible to give myself the shot at home or would it be possible to receive the Neulasta time-release patch during my chemo treatment to put on the following day?	
14. Will I receive scans to see if the chemo is working? When is the first scan?	
15. What is your expectation in terms of the success of this chemo cocktail?	



16.	If the chemo successfully reduces the cancer, will I still need radiation?
17	What are my chances that the cancer recurs in the breast? Metastatically?
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18.	Are there any clinical trials I should consider?
Additional Notes:	