Questions For Your Doctor About Small-Cell Lung Cancer

Here are some questions to ask your care team about how best to manage small-cell lung cancer.

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Receiving a diagnosis of small-cell lung cancer (SCLC) can be overwhelming, and you probably have many questions about your treatment and prognosis. It's important to be open with your care providers and express all your concerns. It can help to make a list of questions in advance. Bring a notepad, or record voice memos to help you remember the answers. Here are some questions to ask your care team about how best to manage small-cell lung cancer.

- What stage of SCLC do I have, and how much has it spread?
- What tests will I need to help guide my treatment?
- What are the recommended treatment options for people with my stage of SCLC?
- Is immunotherapy a potential option for me?
- How soon do I have to decide on a treatment?
- How is the treatment administered?
- How long will the treatment last, and how often will I need to come in?
- What is the goal of my treatment (for example, being cured or improving quality of life)?
- What are my options if the first treatment doesn't work or stops working?
- What should I do to prepare for treatment?
- How will the treatment affect my daily activities?
- What side effects can I expect from my medications or radiation therapy?
- How can I manage these side effects?
- What are some tips for healthy eating if I experience nausea or have little appetite?
- What types of physical activity can I do safely?

- What is your advice for managing stress, anxiety and depression?
- Do I need to see any other health professionals?
- Who can help me with issues around the cost of treatment and insurance coverage?
- Am I eligible for any clinical trials of new therapies?

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