



QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)

Asking your healthcare provider questions at any phase of your treatment will help you take an active role in managing your care. If you do not understand any part of the information your healthcare provider gives you, ask him or her to explain it in another way.

DOCTOR'S NAME:

DATE OF APPOINTMENT/CALL:

Diagnosis and Testing

1. What exactly is my diagnosis? Do I have any mutations? What is the significance of these or another mutations for my treatment?

2. Are you a hematologist-oncologist? How many people with CLL have you treated? Should I seek a second opinion with a CLL specialist?

3. What kind of testing will be done to monitor my disease and treatment? How often will testing be needed?

Treatment

1. What are the goals of treatment?

2. What are all of the treatment options available to me?

3. Do I need drug treatment right away? Or should I be watched first?

4. What is the recommended treatment? What are the benefits and risks?

5. What are the associated side effects and long-term effects of the recommended treatment?

6. How long will I need to stay on treatment?

7. What happens if I do not get treatment?

8. How much time do I have to make a decision about my treatment plan?

9. If I am treated at an out-patient clinic or at the doctor's office, will I be able to drive/get myself home after treatments or will I need someone to assist me? Will I be able to work during my treatment?

10. How will I know if the treatment is effective? What options are available if the treatment is not effective?

11. What is the correct sequence of treatment for me?

Symptoms

1. What are the symptoms I should be aware of and call you about, for instance, fever, rash, diarrhea, heartburn, extreme fatigue or other concerning symptoms?

2. What types of symptoms do you consider urgent? What should I do if these occur (call the office, call the doctor directly, etc)?

3. What is the best way to reach you if I have a concern about symptoms? How can I get in touch with the healthcare team after hours if I have a concern?

Social/Financial Concerns

1. What kind of financial and social support services are available to me and my family?

2. Who is the best person to speak to about bills and insurance coverage?

3. If I do not have insurance coverage, how can the healthcare team help me get treatment? Is there someone I can speak to for assistance?

4. How will treatment affect my sexuality?

Follow-Up Care

Knowing that I have a diagnosis of CLL and I will be followed for the rest of my life,

1. Will the healthcare team continue to check on me after the treatment is over?

2. Can you work with my family doctor so that I can be followed closer to home?

To print additional copies of this question guide, or to print copies of question guides on other topics, go to www.LLS.org/whattoask.



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The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society team consists of master's level oncology social workers, nurses and health educators who are available by phone Mon.–Fri., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (ET).

Contact us at **800.955.4572** or
www.LLS.org/InformationSpecialists.

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Text any of these keywords to 411321.

KEYWORD

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CLL treatment guide

Cancer-related fatigue

Connect with other patients

Financial checklist