



QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT Myeloproliferative Neoplasms (MPNs)

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 JAK2 or any other mutation? What is the significance of this or another mutation for my treatment and quality of life?

2. Are you the right doctor to treat my disease or is there another specialist I should see? How many people with MPNs have you treated? Should I seek a second opinion?

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

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

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

6. What happens if I do not get treatment?

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

8. How can I preserve my fertility before beginning therapy?
How will treatment affect my sexuality?

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 or attend school during my treatment?

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

11. Are there risks of second cancers?

Symptoms

1. What are the symptoms I should be aware of and call you about, for instance, headache, vision changes, fever, burning in the hands and feet or other concerning symptoms?

2. What types of symptoms do you consider urgent?

3. I am currently taking baby aspirin. Should I continue to take it?

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?

Follow-Up Care

1. Will the healthcare team continue to check on me after the treatment is over? If so, for what period of time?

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

3. I would like to continue some type of lifelong follow-up care in order to be monitored for long-term effects of treatment. Can I follow up with this team?

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



GET SUPPORT.
REACH OUT TO OUR INFORMATION SPECIALISTS

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

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