

## **Essential Questions to Ask Your Doctor**

- What information do I need to help me make a decision about treatment?
- What information do you use to make treatment recommendations for me?
- What are your realistic goals for my treatment?
- What are the chances that I can be cured?
- What are my chances of a long-term response with good quality of life?
- Are there clinical trials available to me?
- How will I feel during treatment? Will I be able to work?
- Take care of my family? Travel? Be around young children?
- What help will I need in managing the side effects of treatment? When and for how long?
- Should I consider a second opinion regarding my diagnosis and treatment?
- Are there different approaches to treating my kind of cancer?

## Ask your physician:

Will you give me a written or electronic plan that summarizes our discussion, my treatment choices, and advice for managing treatment and side effects? For resources for Cancer Care Planning, including best practices and sample templates, go to <u>www.canceradvocacy.org/careplans</u>

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