

# Questions to Ask Your Doctor

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When you see your doctor, you may feel nervous and fearful. It's important you ask questions about prostate cancer and that you understand what your doctor is explaining about the disease and your care. Communicating your concerns with your care team is important — so is keeping the lines of communication open as you continue your treatment.

Prepare a list of questions in advance to ensure that key points are addressed. Being an informed participant in medical decision making is the patient's right. Print out this page of suggested questions to ask.

- What is prostate-specific antigen (PSA) and what does it show?
- What is a biopsy, and when and how is it done?
- What is the Gleason score?
- How are PSA and the Gleason score related?
- What are my treatment options?
- Where can I find out more about my treatment options?
- What are the risks and side effects of each treatment option?
- How many of these procedures have you done in the past year?
- How many procedures are done at this hospital each year?
- What stage is my cancer in, and what does that mean for my prognosis?
- How do I decide what is the best treatment option for me personally?
- Is there any indication that the cancer has spread?