



Questions About Your Cancer Medicines

The medicines, or drugs, you take to treat your cancer are not simple ones, and you must follow special steps to get the best results. The person who gives you your cancer drugs (which may be your oncology pharmacist or another care provider) and your doctors and nurses can help you.

Before you begin taking these drugs, you may want to ask your oncology pharmacist these questions:

- What are the names of all the drugs I take to treat my cancer, and how are they given?
- Can these drugs hurt me in any way or cause other problems (side effects)?
- What other drugs can I take to help lessen the side effects?
- What should I do if I think my cancer treatment is causing me to feel bad? When should I call my doctor?
- Can I do anything to give me more energy or make me feel less tired while I am taking these drugs?



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- What drugs could cause my cancer medicine not to work as well as it should?
- Are there any drugs or vitamins I should *not* take during my cancer treatment?
- Should I make changes to the foods I eat or the timing of my meals while I am taking my cancer medicine?
- While I am taking my cancer medicines, do I need to avoid being around other people? For how long?
- Is there someone I can talk to if I am worried about how much my cancer medicines cost?



- Where can I learn more about my cancer medicines?

If you receive your medicines at an infusion center rather than at home, you may want to ask these questions:



- How long will each treatment take?
- Are my treatments given on the same day that I see my doctor?

For **medications you take at home**, you may want to ask these questions:



- Will I receive my medicine from a pharmacy in my cancer clinic, or will it come to my house in the mail? Which pharmacy will be filling my prescriptions for cancer medication?
- Should my medicine be taken with or without food?
- What should I do if I miss a dose of my cancer medicine?
- What should I do if I vomit after taking my cancer medicine?
- What should I do if I need more of my cancer medicine?



- Where should I store my cancer medicine at home, and do I need to treat it in a special way?
- What should I do if I have pills left over?

We are here to help you with your medicine!