Key Questions to Ask Your Doctor

After Treatment

WHAT TO EXPECT

- <u>What does my care look like after</u> <u>treatment</u>?
- What is the likelihood that my tumor will recur? What are my <u>treatment options</u> for a <u>recurrence</u>?
- How often will I have MRIs and checkups?
- Will I be able to return to work and if so, at what point? Will I need any accommodations? Do you have any information for my employer/HR team that will help them support me at work?
- If I can't return to work, what do I need from you to apply for long-term disability?
- Will I need to navigate long-term <u>Social</u> <u>Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)</u>, and who can help me do that?
- Can I drive, or will I be able to drive eventually? What do I need to do to be cleared to drive again? Can you recommend any local <u>transportation assistance</u> programs?
- Will I have long-term side effects or permanent disability from my brain tumor or treatment? If so, can you help me create a management plan?
- What are the side effects of my long-term medication (steroids, seizure medications)?

• What are the side effects of my short-term medication and treatments (chemotherapy, radiation)?

 Do I need <u>physical</u>, <u>speech</u>, <u>or occupational</u> <u>therapy</u>?

QUALITY OF LIFE

- What is <u>palliative care</u>?
- What is the difference between palliative and hospice care?
- Can we discuss a plan for quality of life and <u>palliative care</u>?
- Will I have access to social work support?
- Are there any vitamins, nutritional recommendations, or complementary therapies you suggest to improve my quality of life and general health? Is an integrative medicine consultation to discuss complementary therapies available to me?
- How will we address <u>mental health support</u> for me and my <u>caregiver</u> after treatment?
- Can you suggest <u>support groups</u>, <u>financial</u> <u>assistance services</u>, and/or a cancer resource center in the area for me and my caregiver?
- Will I need long-term care services?
- How will <u>side effects</u> such as fatigue, hair loss, and headache be managed?



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After Treatment

- Will I need rehabilitation services, like speech, physical, or cognitive therapy? Are there rehabilitation centers that focus on neurological recovery that you recommend?
- What if I don't meet my rehabilitative goals before my benefits run out?
- How do you recommend I keep track of how I feel, and what do you need to know?
- What should I be watching for to call for immediate help?
- Does your health system offer spiritual support through a spiritual care advisor?

NOTES