

When Breast Cancer is Diagnosed

If you have been diagnosed with breast cancer, there is a lot to learn. Get all the information you can so you can make important decisions about your care. You will want to have the results of your biopsy and know the type of breast cancer you have. The questions below can help you gather information about your breast cancer so you can make choices that are right for you.

Q: What kind of breast cancer do I have?

A:

Q: What is the stage of my breast cancer and what does that mean?

A:

Q: Were any tests done on my tumor? If so, what were the results (example: hormone receptor status test)? How do these results affect my treatment options? Will more tests be done on my tumor to help make treatment decisions?

A:

Q: What type of doctors should I see? When should I see them and how often?

A:

Q: How can I get a copy of my pathology report?

A:

Q: Will my lymph nodes (located under the arm) be removed? Why?

A:

Q: What is a sentinel node biopsy? Will I have this done? How accurate is a sentinel lymph node biopsy?

A:

Q: What tests will I have before surgery to see if the cancer has spread to any other organs (liver, lungs, bones)? When will the tests be done?

A:

Q: What is my prognosis (chance for recovery)?

A:

Q: What are the chances my cancer will come back — or that I will develop another type of cancer?

A:

Q: Where can I find a support group?

A:



For more information on breast health or breast cancer, please call our breast care helpline (1-877-465-6636) or visit our website. Susan G. Komen does not provide medical advice.

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