



Questions To Ask Your Child's Oncologist

1. Exactly what type of cancer has my child been diagnosed with?
2. What stage is my child's cancer in? What does that stage mean? How does this stage affect our options?
3. Is there any further diagnostic testing (MRI, CT, PET, bone scan, etc.) that can be performed to better diagnose the extent of my child's cancer?
4. Was my child's biopsy analyzed for any specific gene mutation(s)? Can genomic sequencing be performed to more specifically diagnose?
 - o Foundation Medicine Full Panel 315+ Genes
 - o PD-L1 Expression Tumor
 - o Mutational Burden
 - o Microsatellite Instability
 - o Lymphocyte Infiltration
5. What are the costs to me for this testing?
6. What is your recommended treatment strategy? What is the goal of this treatment; Cure or Manage?
7. How can we learn more about this type of treatment?
8. What risks or short-term and long-term side effects are there for your recommended treatment(s)?
9. How is the treatment likely to help my child?
10. When/How will we be able to know if it's working?
11. How would this treatment affect my child's daily activities - school, physical activity, sleep, etc.?
12. What is the five-year survival rate for this type of treatment for my child's specific stage and condition?
13. Can you put me in contact with someone you've treated with this treatment plan?
14. Are there any clinical trials, immunotherapies, or off-label drugs we should consider?
15. What cancer center/university is doing the most research on my child's type of cancer? Can you refer us to this cancer/research center for a second opinion?
16. Should that cancer/research center offer a treatment plan or clinical trial that you don't offer, would you be willing to collaborate with them for follow-up care?
17. What is the average life expectancy for someone with my child's specific stage and condition?
18. How do you recommend we share our hopes and expectations with my child and family?

