

Question checklist for Melanoma

Asking your doctor questions will help you make an informed choice. You may want to include some of the questions below in your own list.

Diagnosis

- What type of melanoma do I have? How thick is it?
 - Has the melanoma spread? How fast is it growing?
 - Did the biopsy remove all of the melanoma?
 - Are the latest tests and treatments for melanoma available in this hospital?
 - Can you explain the results of the tests to me?
 - Are there clinical guidelines for this type of melanoma?
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Treatment

- What treatment do you recommend? What is the aim of the treatment?
 - How long will treatment take? Will I have to stay in hospital?
 - How much will treatment cost? Can the cost be reduced if I can't afford it?
 - How will I know if the treatment is working?
 - Are there any clinical trials or research studies I could join?
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Side effects

- What are the risks and possible side effects of each treatment? How can these be managed?
 - Will I have a lot of pain? If I do, what will be done about this?
 - Will there be any scarring after the melanoma is removed?
 - What are the chances I will get lymphoedema after treatment?
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After treatment

- How often will I need to get my skin checked after treatment? Who should I go to for my skin checks?
 - How can I protect myself from the sun and get enough vitamin D?
 - If the melanoma returns, how will I know? What treatments could I have?
 - Are there any local support groups for people with melanoma?
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My questions
