



The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Questions to Ask Your Doctor about Achalasia

1. Will my condition ever get better without treatment? Can it get worse?
2. What are my treatment options?
3. What are the potential side effects of this treatment?
4. How often do you perform the procedure that you've recommended for me?
5. What is the success rate for that specific procedure?
6. Are there any lifestyle changes I can make now?
7. When should I seek medical attention if I am experiencing symptoms following treatment?
8. Will I have any restrictions after treatment? (activity, driving, etc)
9. How long will I be out of work?
10. Will I have to change my diet and/or lifestyle after treatment?
11. Will I have to take any long-term medications?
12. How likely is it that I will need additional treatment later?
13. If I want a second opinion, how would I get one?