



The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Questions to Ask Your Doctor about Chest Wall Tumors

1. Will my condition ever get better without treatment? Can it get worse?
2. What are my treatment options?
3. Will I need surgery?
4. What are the potential side effects of this treatment?
5. How often do you do the procedure that you've recommended for me?
6. What is the success rate for that specific procedure?
7. When should I seek medical attention if I am experiencing symptoms following surgery?
8. Will I have any restrictions after treatment? (activity, driving, etc)
9. Will I have to be out of work? If so, for how long?
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?
14. Where is my chest wall tumor located?
15. Is it cancerous? If yes, what is the survival rate for my particular kind of cancer?
16. How do I get a copy of my pathology report?
17. Are there any clinical trials relevant to my cancer that I can look into?