



The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Questions to Ask Your Doctor about Coronary Artery Disease

1. What is my risk for a heart attack?
2. What lifestyle changes can I make to reduce my risk of a heart attack?
3. Will the plaque that has already built up ever go away?
4. Can taking aspirin help reduce my risk of a heart attack?
5. Do I need CABG surgery, PCI, or just medical therapy?
6. What are the risks of my operation?
7. How experienced is your team and your hospital?
8. How long will I have to stay in the hospital?
9. What medications will I have to take, if any?
10. How long will my recovery take?
11. What can I expect after surgery?
12. Will I have to change my diet?
13. What other lifestyle changes will I have to make?
14. When will I be able to drive and go back to work?
15. When will I be able to travel?