



# The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

## Questions to Ask Your Doctor about Esophageal Cancer

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