

Questions to ask YOUR DOCTOR



GENERAL HEALTH

- Are my numbers and test results normal or within healthy limits?
- Given my personal and family medical history, do I have a higher risk for any illnesses?
- What should I do to maintain my health or manage my condition?
- What screenings should I have done?
- Given my age and health, what symptoms may indicate the onset of an illness?



MEDICAL TESTS

- What is this test for?
- When will I get the results?
- What will the results tell us about my diagnosis or treatment?
- How accurate are the tests?
- Will I need additional tests after this one?
- Where do I go to have this test done?



HEALTH PROBLEMS

- What is my diagnosis?
- What are my treatment options?
- How soon do I need to decide about treatment?
- What do you think is causing this problem?
- If my symptoms worsen, when should I contact you?
- When should I go to an emergency center?
- How will this affect my work or personal life?
- What are my short-term and long-term prognoses?
- Do I need to see a specialist?



MEDICATIONS

- Are there any side effects?
- Will this drug interact with other medications or supplements I am taking?
- When should I take this drug?
- Should I take this drug with or without food?
- When should I start seeing results?
- What is the cost of the medication?
- Is there a generic drug for this medication that you could prescribe?
- How long will I need to take this medication?
- What should I do if I miss a dose?
- Do I have any restrictions while taking this medication (alcohol, driving, work)?



SURGERY AND MEDICAL PROCEDURES

- What are the possible complications?
- What is the typical recovery period?
- What will I experience during recovery?
- How long will the treatment take?
- What is the cost of the treatment?
- Is there more than one way to perform this surgery or procedure?
- How long will I be in the hospital?
- How will I know that my treatment is working or the surgery was a success?
- Will I need a follow-up visit? If so, after how long?
- How soon can I return to my normal activities (work, driving, physical activity)?