

About Treatment Choices

Your treatment plan depends on several factors such as: your age, stage of your tumor and estrogen receptor (ER) status. However, deciding on a treatment is a personal matter for you as well as a medical one. The type of treatment you decide on should be based on the risks and benefits and how they relate to your own values and lifestyle.

Answers to these questions will help you determine the best treatment plan for you.

Q: What are my treatment options? What do you recommend for me and why?

A:

Q: What is your opinion about breast-conserving surgery (lumpectomy) followed by radiation therapy? Is this treatment right for me? (Anyone considering this option should also consult with a radiation oncologist.)

A:

Q: What is a sentinel node biopsy? Will I have this done? How accurate is a sentinel lymph node biopsy in my case?

A:

Q: Will I need more treatment (radiation therapy, chemotherapy and/or hormonal therapy) after my surgery? Will you refer me to a radiation oncologist for radiation therapy and a medical oncologist to discuss the need for chemotherapy or hormonal therapy?

A:

Q: Can breast reconstruction be done at the time of the surgery, as well as later? Will you refer me to a reconstructive surgeon before my surgery?

A:

Q: If I choose not to have reconstruction, what can I do? What types of breast prostheses are available? Where can I buy a breast prosthesis? Is it covered by my insurance?

A:

Q: How long do I have to make a treatment decision? What will my insurance cover?

A:

Q: Is there a clinical trial for patients with my type of breast cancer? If so, how can I learn more?

A:



For more information on breast health or breast cancer, please call our breast care helpline (1-877-465-6636) or visit our website. Susan G. Komen for the Cure does not provide medical advice.

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