



General Questions To Ask

Date: _____

Name: _____

About My Tests

- Why do I need this test?
- What will this test show?
- Does this test have any risks or cause any side effects?
- When will I get the results?
- How will I get the results?
- Will you send my other doctor the results?
- What if this test doesn't show anything?
- Are there other tests that show more information?

About My Condition

- How do you know that I have this medical condition?
- Is it possible that my symptoms could be caused by something else?
- How did I get it?
- How serious is this—how advanced is it?
- Will I get better?
- Are you going to be my main doctor?
- Will I be seen by other doctors? Who are they?
- What is the plan for treatment?
- If I have other questions, whom do I call?
- Am I going to start feeling weak or different in any way?
- Is there a support group or someone I can talk to about this?

About My Medication

- Why do I need this medicine?
- What are the side effects?
- What should I do if I have any side effects?
- Will this medicine work safely with my other medications?
- Do herbal supplements interfere with this medication?
- May I bring in all the medications/supplements I'm taking for you to check?
- How will I know if the medicine is working?
- How long will it take for me to feel better?
- Can I stop taking the medicine when I'm feeling better?
- Can I have an alcoholic drink while I'm taking this medicine?
- Should I take this medicine with food?
- Are there any other precautions I should follow while I'm taking this medicine?

About My Treatment or Surgery

- Why do I need this surgery/treatment?
 - Are there any other treatment options I can try instead?
 - How serious is the surgery/treatment? What are the potential risks?
 - What are the benefits? Is it totally necessary?
 - How am I going to feel afterward?
 - When will I start feeling better?
 - What if I don't start feeling better by then?
 - How is this going to change my daily activities?
 - How soon can I go back to work?
 - How much of this treatment will my insurance cover?
 - I don't have insurance, so how can I pay for it?
 - Are there any special instructions?
 - Are there special instructions after I get home from the surgery/treatment?
 - What should I do if I'm feeling worse in the middle of the night?
 - What number can I call in the middle of the night or on weekends if I have questions?
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Notes: