

Ask Your Physician

Here are some questions you can ask to help you understand your or your loved one's medical problems. (In fact, it's pretty hard to make decisions about end-of-life care without a good understanding of the answers to these questions.)

1. Can you tell me what I can expect from this illness?
2. What is my life likely to look like 6 months from now, 1 year from now, and 5 years from now?
3. Am I dying?
4. How do you expect my condition to change in the next year?
5. What can I expect about my ability to function independently?
6. Will I be able to go about my daily routine and care for myself?
7. What are some possible big changes in my health that my family and I should be prepared for?
8. What symptoms might I experience?
9. What can I expect if I decide to do nothing?
10. Is it time to call Hospice Services of Lake County?

If I choose this course of treatment or another course of treatment:

1. What can I expect to improve or not improve?
2. Will the treatments cure or slow down my illness?
3. Will the treatments focus on managing my symptoms and quality of life?
4. Will the treatments increase or decrease my pain?
5. Will the treatments make me feel sick?

Always take someone with you and have someone take notes.