

Questions for your Health Care Team

Questions regarding ovarian cancer:

- *What type of ovarian cancer do I have? (What is my tumor type?)
- *Has my cancer spread beyond my ovaries?
- *What stage is my cancer? What grade is my cancer?
- *How many cases has the doctor/hospital seen of my type of ovarian cancer? How many in young women?
- *What should I do to prepare for my surgery and treatment?
- *Would somatic genome testing be beneficial for me? (*See side note*)
- *Who can I expect on my health care team and how can I contact them?

Questions regarding treatment:

- *What is the purpose of my treatment? To control the cancer? Manage symptoms?
- *Will I need chemotherapy? Radiation? Both?
- *How many treatments will I need to undergo?
- *What are the side effects that I might experience from treatment?
- *Will I be able to have children after my treatment?
- *Who can I talk to about my fertility options?
- *What are the pros and cons of harvesting eggs?
- *Are there other options for saving my eggs that do not include harvesting?
- *Are there any clinical trials that I qualify for?
- *How do I know if I am eligible?
- *What are the repercussions of my clinical trial?
- *What does insurance cover in a clinical trial?
- *How will my treatments affect my school or work?
- *How quickly can I expect treatment to begin?
- *What long term effects should I anticipate, if any?
- *Are there alternative treatments I may wish to consider?
- *Should I follow a specific diet while going through treatment?
- *Will I lose my hair? If I choose to wear a wig, are there cancer support organizations in the area who distribute wigs?
- *What other changes might my body undergo during treatment?
- *If fertility is an issue, how long can I delay my treatment to deal with my fertility options?
- *What medications will I need in order to manage the side effects of treatment or what should I be doing to help alleviate those side effects?
- *Can you recommend other specialists, such a nutritionist, who can help me be proactive about treatment?

Questions regarding how to handle difficult news:

- *How do I explain the news to my family and friends?
- *What will be my out of pocket costs?
- *What is the 1-3-5-10 year survival rate for my type of cancer?
- *What websites can I explore to learn more? Which can I trust?
- *How can I connect with other young women in the area who are battling cancer/ovarian cancer?
- *What community resources are available to help me manage my finances while undergoing treatment?