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?