

### **Questions to ask before radiation treatment**

- What is the purpose of radiation treatment for my type and stage of cancer?
- How will the radiation therapy be given?
- What do the treatments feel like?
- How often do I have to come for treatment?
- What are the chances that radiation therapy will work?
- If I choose not to have radiation, what are the chances my specific cancer type will spread or come back?
- Will I need chemotherapy, surgery or other treatments? If so, in what order will I receive these treatments?
- How soon after radiation therapy can I start them?
- How should I prepare for this financially?
- What are some of the support groups I can turn to during treatment?
- If I have questions after I leave here, who can I call?
- Will radiation therapy affect my ability to have children?

### **Questions to ask during treatment**

- How should I expect to feel during and following radiation therapy?
- Will I be able to drive myself to treatment?
- Can I continue my normal activities (work, exercise, sex, etc.)?
- What side effects should I expect and how are they managed?
- Do I need a special diet during or after my treatment?
- Is it okay to keep smoking or drink alcohol during my treatment?
- Will side effects change my appearance? If so, will the changes be permanent or temporary? If temporary, how long will they last?
- Is it safe to take vitamins during treatment?
- Are there any vitamins, foods, or medications that I should avoid during treatment?

### **Questions to ask after treatment ends**

- How and when will you know if I am cured of cancer?
- What are the chances that the cancer will come back?
- How soon can I go back to my regular activities? Work? Sexual activity? Exercise?
- How often do I need to return for checkups?