



DOCTOR DISCUSSION GUIDE

Managing Testicular Cancer

Dealing with testicular cancer, like any other cancer, can feel overwhelming. You and your doctor will work together to ensure you get the best treatment possible. Asking the right questions during your conversation will help you know what to expect and how to better navigate your condition. Familiarize yourself with these common terms before your appointment to help facilitate your discussion.

Vocabulary to Know

Your doctor might mention these common terms. Here's what they mean.

Tumor Markers	Substances that are found in the blood or urine, but which could be indicative of cancer when present in higher than normal level. For testicular cancer, these markers are alpha-fetoprotein (AFP), beta human chorionic gonadotropin (β-HCG), and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH).
Seminoma	A type of testicular cancer that grows slowly.
Non-Seminoma	A type of testicular cancer that grows and spreads faster than seminomas.
Mixed Germ Cell Tumors	Cancerous tumors that are made up of both seminoma and non-seminoma cells. When these develop, it is treated as non-seminoma.
Stromal Tumor	A type of tumor that develops in tissues that produce hormones in the testicles.
Stem Cell Transplant	A form of treatment for testicular cancer that's combined with chemotherapy. It involves blood-forming stem cells being taken from your body and later infused/transplanted back after you've undergone high dose chemotherapy.
Orchiectomy	A form of treatment of testicular cancer that involves removing one or both testicles surgically. To treat most kinds of testicular cancer, you will likely have to undergo an orchiectomy first.
Oncologist	A doctor that's specially trained to treat cancer.

