Questions to Ask Your Doctor

Informed and empowered melanoma patients
live longer, better lives

Diagnosis-Related Questions:
• Why do you think I have melanoma?
• Do I need a biopsy?
• When will I know the results?
• Will I have a scar from the biopsy?
• Have you checked my body for other possible lesions?
• What is my stage?
• Do I need more tests to determine my stage?
• If I need more tests, what tests are they?
• How will you determine if the cancer has spread?
• Has the cancer spread to my lymph nodes?
• What type of follow-up will I need?
• Will I develop a new melanoma?
• Should I get a second opinion?
• Do I need regular scans or a brain scan?
• Do you know what my Breslow Measurement is?

Treatment-Related Questions:
• What are my treatment options?
• Have you tested my melanoma for genetic mutations such as the BRAF mutation? What about other mutations?
• What treatment plan do you recommend?
• Will I receive my treatment here or at another center?
• Am I a candidate for any of the recently FDA approved drugs: ipilimumab, vemurafenib, trametinib or dabrafenib?
• Would you recommend IL-2 or interferon?
• Will I be able to continue my normal daily life?
• What are the side effects of the treatment you recommend?
• What clinical trials would you recommend?
• Should I continue to see a dermatologist? How often?
• Should I get a second opinion?
• What type of follow-up care will I need?