

# SERIOUS ILLNESS CHECKLIST

If you are diagnosed with a serious illness or a chronic condition, ask your provider all of these questions. Let your healthcare team know that you will be actively involved in your care and treatment decisions. Always get a second opinion-especially if you need major surgery or treatments.

How sure are you of the diagnosis?

Is there consensus in the medical community about the best way to treat this?

Are there any additional tests needed to confirm the diagnosis?

How soon do I need to start treatment?

What is the cause?

Did anything in my history contribute to this?

Are there doctors or 'centers of excellence' that specialize in treating this?

What is the prognosis?

Who will be in charge of my overall care?

What are all of my treatment options?

Next Steps:

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What treatment do you recommend for me and why?