

questions to ask your doctor

I. Diagnosis Questions

How was it determined that I have Stage IV melanoma?
Where has my melanoma spread?
Has it spread to my brain?
Will I need additional tests or procedures to confirm the stage of my disease?

II. Treatment Questions

Was I tested for the BRAF mutation?
Should I be tested for the NRAS or C-KIT mutation?
What treatment plan do you recommend? Why?
Should I consider immunotherapy, targeted therapy, or chemotherapy to treat my melanoma? Why?
What are the possible side effects of these treatments?
Will the treatments affect my ability to work?
Do I need radiation therapy?
Can I use complementary or alternative therapies?
Why or why not?
What is my prognosis?
What type of follow-up will I need?
Do I need regular scans?
Do I need a brain scan?
Should I get a second opinion?

III. Clinical Trial Questions

What are clinical trials?
Should I consider enrolling in a clinical trial?
Why or why not?
Are you involved in any clinical trials?
Should I be referred to a center that has clinical trials?

IV. Additional Questions

How often should I go for a skin exam?
What can I do to reduce my risks of developing another melanoma?
What is the risk of my family members developing melanoma?