questions to ask your doctor

I. Diagnosis Questions

How was it determined that I have Stage I melanoma?
Were there concerning features on the biopsy such as ulceration or a high mitotic rate?

II. Treatment Questions

Will I have a wide local excision?
Do you recommend I have a sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB)? Why or why not?
If I need a SLNB, do you have a recommendation for a surgeon?
If yes, how much experience does this surgeon have doing this procedure?
Are you concerned with any other moles/lesions on my body?
What is my prognosis?
What type of follow-up will I need?

III. Additional Questions

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