PROSTATE CANCER RADIATION THERAPY

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR

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Discussing prostate cancer treatment options with a doctor can be overwhelming for anyone. During appointments, you're given a lot of information in a short time. On the spot, it can be hard to keep track of all your questions let alone know what to ask.

This guide helps you prepare in advance, to make sure your most important questions are covered. These questions are a starting point to guide your conversation about radiation therapy and rectal spacers. Add any additional questions and notes from your appointment in the spaces below.

Radiation Therapy Questions

> Treatment Team

Who will be part of my treatment team, and what does each member do?

> Treatment Regimen

What type of radiation regimen will I receive?

Why is it your preferred choice for me?

How long is my course of treatment?

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What is the treatment frequency? (e.g. daily, weekly)

How long is each radiation session?

Can I drive myself to appointments or should someone come with me?

Will I feel the radiation beam during treatment?

Can I expect pain/discomfort during the sessions?

Will I have other therapies along with the radiation, such as hormone treatment? If so, how do the treatments work? What are their pros and cons?

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What are the next steps in my treatment process? When will I begin radiation therapy?

How should I prepare for my first radiation therapy appointment?

Do you have a patient support group or other patient resources you would recommend?

> Radiation Side Effects

How will treatment affect my daily life? Can I work, exercise, and perform my usual activities?

What potential treatment side effects could I experience during, after, and long-term?

Side Effect	Short-term timeframe?	Long-term timeframe?	How to manage symptoms
Tired/fatigued			
Sexual side effects			
Urinary complications			
Rectal side effects and/or damage			
Other side effects?			

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Rectal Spacing Questions

Will I be getting a rectal spacer prior to radiation therapy? How does it work?

What are the potential risks and/or side effects of using a rectal spacer?

What are the benefits of using a rectal spacer?

What are the potential risks of not using a rectal spacer?

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> Types of Spacers

Do you provide multiple types/brands of rectal spacers?
If so, are there differences in terms of effectiveness, risks, or other clinical outcomes?

Are they equally effective in reducing rectal side effects from radiation to the prostate?

> What to Expect

Will I feel the rectal spacer after it's been inserted?

Does the spacer stay in place throughout the course of treatment?

What happens to the spacer after my therapy is complete?

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> Additional Questions and Notes

Barrigel™ Rectal Spacer FAQs

For more frequently asked questions about Barrigel™ spacer, scan this QR code or visit: **Barrigel.com/FAQ**

For more information about Barrigel rectal spacer, please visit barrigel.com.
Individual results may vary.

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