



You & Your Surgeon

Osteosarcoma Decision Aid

20 Questions for Your Surgeon (PDF)

Some patients report that they only have one or two meetings with their surgeon before a decision is made, so be prepared with questions. If an option is not mentioned, ask why as early as possible. It may be due to the location or size of the tumor, or the child's age. For example, the family of a young child may prefer RP or AMP due to the many surgeries over time that would come with LSS.

Surgery

1. What are my options?
2. Do any of the options affect the risk for recurrence, relapse, or survival?
3. What will I be able to do with each of the options?
4. What will my limitations be for activity, like running, jumping, etc.?
5. What additional surgeries can I expect over time with each of the options?
6. What are the common complications you've seen with this surgery?
7. How would those complications be resolved?
8. What are some of the unexpected complications you've seen with this surgery?
9. How would those unexpected complications be resolved?
10. What is your experience with patients who have one type of surgery, then later choose another?



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11. What is the pain experience like for people with this surgery over their lifetime?
12. What can be done during surgery to avoid pain later? *Ask about targeted muscle reinnervation (TMR) and other surgical options.*

Connections and Support

1. Who are local prosthetists I can talk with about prosthetics? Ask if the prosthetist can meet with the surgeon prior to surgery to discuss shaping the limb for a more comfortable fit with your prosthesis.
2. Who are local physical therapists you use and how can I talk with them?
3. Are there other patients of yours that I can meet or talk to about their decision?
4. How do I connect with amputee groups to meet amputees and ask questions?
5. How can I best communicate with you and ask more questions?
6. Who can I speak with if you are unavailable?
7. Who can I talk to about my insurance coverage for prosthetics?
8. Where can I go for additional information about the options?