

Questions to ask your surgeon

What type of cancer do I have and how serious is it?

What are my surgical options, and why?

Am I a candidate for Hidden Scar nipple sparing mastectomy or Hidden Scar lumpectomy?

Is the cancer recurrence rate the same with skin sparing or nipple sparing mastectomy compared to a simple mastectomy?

After reconstruction, will both of my breasts look the same?

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Additional appointment questions

Questions about your cancer

- Has my cancer spread?

Questions about pre-operative treatment

- Do I need a second opinion?
- What kind of treatment do I need?
- Should I have a breast MRI?
- Is my cancer genetic?
- Do I need to be tested for breast cancer genes?
- How quickly do I need surgery?

Questions about lumpectomy

- If I have a lumpectomy, can the cancer come back in my breast?
- Is lumpectomy as good as mastectomy?
- Will I need lymph node surgery if I have a lumpectomy?
- Will I get a big swollen arm if you take out my lymph nodes?
- When people look at me will they know I've had a lumpectomy?

Questions about mastectomy

- Are there different kinds of mastectomies?
- Can you save my nipple?
- Am I a candidate for skin sparing or nipple sparing mastectomy?
- When people look at me will they know I've had a mastectomy?
- Can the cancer come back after a mastectomy?

Questions about post-operative treatment

- In addition to my surgery, will I need further treatment such as radiation or chemotherapy?
- I've heard sometimes I need a second operation. Why is a second operation sometimes needed?
- Will I need plastic surgery?
- Can I have reconstruction?
- Who does the reconstruction?
- What are the different types of reconstructions?

Questions about life after surgery

- How long will I be in the hospital?
- Is my other breast at risk of cancer?
- When can I go back to work?
- How often do I need follow-up appointments?
- Will I still need mammography every year?

Notes
