

COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT CHEMOTHERAPY



Chemotherapy is a common type of treatment that kills off cells that cause cancer. Here are some questions you might have before starting chemotherapy.

How will I be given chemotherapy?

There are lots of different types of chemotherapy. You might be given it through an injection, via an IV infusion, in a pump, as tablets or medicine.



Will my hair fall out?

Not everyone's hair falls out. Some people's might just get thinner. If yours does fall out, it will grow back. It's not just the hair on your head that will be affected – chemotherapy can also affect your eyebrows, eyelashes, underarm hair and pubes.

What other side effects might I have?

Common side effects for chemotherapy include feeling sick and tired, mouth ulcers or a sore mouth, losing or gaining weight, diarrhoea, constipation, skin changes and feeling sleepy or struggling to concentrate. Chemotherapy can also weaken your immune system so you might be at a higher risk of getting other infections.

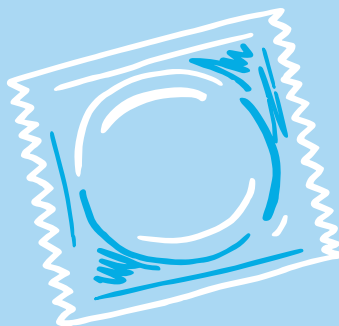


Will chemotherapy affect my fertility?

There's a chance it could have an impact. It's important to speak to your care team about how your specific diagnosis and treatment plan might affect your fertility. There are a number of options available and you're entitled to ask to speak to a fertility specialist regardless of your diagnosis. It's important to fully understand your treatment and its impact.

Can I still have sex while having chemotherapy?

Yes, but you should always use a condom, even for oral sex, and even if you're using other contraception. This is because you can pass on chemicals from chemotherapy drugs to your partner during sex.



Will chemotherapy be difficult?

Yes, it might be but you can always speak to your care team if you have any questions about your treatment or any side effects you experience.