

Questions to ask when your child finishes cancer treatment

The end of cancer treatment is a major milestone, but it can also bring new questions and uncertainty. As your child transitions from active treatment to living beyond cancer, it's important to have clear information and know where to turn for support.

Here are some helpful questions to ask your child's cancer treatment team to help guide your next steps. Write down your questions before appointments and bring a notebook or support person with you. Keeping track of advice, tests and information can help you feel more confident with what comes next.

Understanding the treatment your child received

- Who can give us a written summary of all the treatments, medications and procedures our child had?
- Will this summary include details our GP or future health professionals might need?

Planning for follow-up care

- What is the plan for follow-up care? How often will check-ups or scans be needed?
- What kinds of tests or scans will be done during follow-up visits, and why?
- Which specialists should my child continue to see?
- Where will follow-up care take place?

Monitoring for late or long-term effects

- Is my child at risk of late effects that may appear months or years from now?
- Are there any long-term health risks we should be aware of, now or into adulthood?
- What signs should I watch out for?
- Are there specialists we should see to manage these risks?

Supporting emotional health

- Would seeing a psychologist or counsellor be helpful for my child? What support options are available?
- Are there peer support groups locally or online for children and families?

Looking after your child at home

- Are there any health or lifestyle aspects we should keep an eye on?
- Who should I contact if my child becomes unwell or develops a fever?
- Can my child go back to school, daycare or regular activities? Are there any restrictions?
- Should my child avoid any physical activities?
- Will they need to continue any medications?
- Will my child need booster vaccines, and if so, when?

Coordinating ongoing care

- When is it appropriate to return to our regular GP for health concerns?
- Does our GP have all the information they need to provide care moving forward?

Looking ahead

It's completely normal to have mixed emotions during this transition - from relief to anxiety and everything in between.

Keep asking questions. Your care team is there to support you and help your child live well beyond cancer.

For more resources, visit **kidsbeyondcancer.com.au**