



Hackensack
Meridian *Health*



Considering Surgery? Important Questions to Ask Your Doctor

If you or a loved one is considering a surgical procedure for spine, hip, knee or other joint injuries or conditions, there's a lot to understand.

It is a good idea to write down questions ahead of time and bring them to your doctor's appointment. Some sample questions include:

- What are my treatment options?
- Do I need to have surgery or are there alternatives?
- Can I get a second opinion?
- What are the expected results in my case?
- How long will the healing time from the surgery take?
- What pain management options are there?
- What kind of follow-up care or rehabilitation should I expect?
- Who should I call for non-emergency questions?

Write down all your questions and have a conversation with your doctor. This is an important step to be fully educated about your options and make the right decisions for your personal health care needs.