



# Questions for Your Vet or Oncologist

PETSLIKEMINE  
CANCER & TUMOURS

The questions worth asking at a cancer diagnosis, with space to write the answers

PET NAME

VET / ONCOLOGIST

APPOINTMENT DATE

When you've just heard the word "cancer", almost nobody remembers their questions in the room. A diagnosis is not automatically a death sentence, and what happens next depends far more on the *type, grade and stage* than on the word itself. Take this sheet with you, jot the answers as you go, and don't leave wishing you'd asked. There is no wrong question here, and no wrong choice waiting at the end.

## UNDERSTANDING THE DIAGNOSIS

**What type of cancer is it, and how was it confirmed (a needle sample, or a biopsy)?**

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**What grade is it (how aggressive does it look), and what stage (how far has it spread)?**

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**Has it spread, or could it, and what tests would tell us?**

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## TREATMENT OPTIONS AND THE GOAL OF EACH

### ASK THE GOAL OF EVERY OPTION

*For each treatment, ask what it is actually for: a cure, control (good extra time), or comfort. The goal matters as much as the name, and "doing less" or comfort care is always a legitimate, loving option to put on the list.*

**What are all my options (including doing less), and is each one for cure, control or comfort?**

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## OUTLOOK, SIDE EFFECTS, COST AND TIME

**What's the realistic outlook for this exact cancer, as a range rather than a date?**

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**How would my pet feel day to day, what side effects are likely, and what would mean calling you urgently?**

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**Roughly what would each option cost, over how long, and is it claimable on insurance?**

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**What happens if we choose not to treat, and how would we keep my pet comfortable?**

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**Would a specialist referral, a clinical trial, or a second opinion help? (all are your right)**

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*Written and reviewed by Dr Alastair Greenway MRCVS and Claire Greenway BVM&S MRCVS. This sheet explains and records. It does not diagnose or prescribe. Always follow your own vet's instructions.*

**How to use.** Bring this to the diagnosis appointment and write as you go. Ask the goal of every option (cure, control or comfort) and the honest outlook. A wellbeing aid, not a substitute for veterinary advice.

**ASK THE GOAL OF EACH OPTION: CURE, CONTROL, OR COMFORT**