Questions about surgery

General Questions

1. What is the name of the surgical procedure?

2. Why do I need surgery?

3. How soon should surgery take place?

4. What might happen if I delay or avoid the surgery?

5. Will you explain the surgery in simple terms?

6. How much of my lung(s) do you anticipate will need to be removed?

7. What are the risks and benefits of this surgery? What results should I expect from the surgery?

8. Are there any treatments I can have before surgery to shrink the tumor?

9. Are there any nonsurgical options?
Questions about surgery

10. Are there any less invasive surgery options?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

11. What is the next step if this surgery doesn’t work?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

12. How much does the surgery cost? How can I find out?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

About the Procedure

1. What should I do to prepare?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

2. How is the surgery done?  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________

3. How long will the surgery take?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

4. What kind of anesthesia will be used (general, local, or regional)?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

5. Will I have drains, catheters, or intravenous lines?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

6. Is there a possibility that I will need a blood transfusion, and if so, can I bank my own blood before surgery?  
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______________________________________________________________________________

7. How successful is this procedure?  
______________________________________________________________________________  
______________________________________________________________________________
Questions about surgery

8. What are the risks associated with this surgery?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

9. How much experience do you have with this procedure?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

10. Has the procedure been done often in this hospital or surgery center?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

About Post-Surgery

1. How long will I have to remain in the hospital?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

2. How will I feel after surgery?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

3. How much pain is there after this type of surgery? How is it treated?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

4. How long will it take for me to recuperate?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

About What to Expect When You Get Home

1. What kind of care will I need at home? Are there any activity limitations?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

2. How soon can I eat a regular meal?
_____________________________________________________________________________
Questions about surgery

3. How long will it be until I can resume normal activities?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

4. What symptoms should I watch for and report?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

5. Will I need other types of treatment after surgery?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

6. How long will it be until I can safely receive other necessary treatments?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

7. Are there alternatives to this treatment?
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_____________________________________________________________________________

Reminder

1. Ask for other information about the surgery.
2. Ask about a second opinion.
3. Ask how much the surgery will cost and if there are ways to reduce the costs.
4. State any concerns you have about having the surgery.