

## Esophageal Cancer: The Next Steps in Your Care

This handout offers information on the next steps in your care and treatment for your esophageal cancer. Your healthcare team will work with you to make a treatment plan that is right for you.

After your surgical consult:

- A clerk or nurse will call with a schedule of appointments for tests the surgeon orders for you.
- Call the nurse navigator if you have difficulty swallowing, drinking fluids or eating solid foods.

	<b>Your appointments</b>	<b>What happens at this appointment</b>
✓	Follow up with the surgeon	<p>This appointment is scheduled about 3 weeks after your surgical consult. At this appointment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The surgeon and nurse navigator review your test results with you.</li> <li>• The surgeon talks about your treatment plan. This may include a discussion about surgery. Surgery will not happen until after you finish systemic therapy and/or radiation treatments. Your surgeon may have you sign a consent for surgery.</li> <li>• The surgeon refers you to a medical oncologist (a doctor who specializes in systemic therapy treatments) and/or a radiation oncologist (a doctor who specializes in radiation therapy treatments) - if the referrals were not made at your surgical consult appointment. These appointments are scheduled for about 2 weeks after your follow up appointment with the surgeon.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consult appointments with a medical oncologist and a radiation oncologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are given information about chemotherapy and radiation treatments. This includes how these treatments work, possible side effects and what your treatment plan will be. You will sign consents for these treatments.</li> <li>• You are given a schedule of your treatment appointments. You will receive treatment for about 5 to 6 weeks.</li> <li>• You are scheduled for a PET scan about 4 weeks after your treatment is finished.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consult appointment with a Medical Oncologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You are given a schedule of your systemic therapy treatment appointments. You will have about 4 cycles of treatment (1 cycle is every 14 days) before your surgery, and another 4 cycles after your recovery from surgery.</li> <li>• You are scheduled for a PET scan after you finish the 4 cycles of treatment.</li> </ul>
✓	Follow up with your surgeon	<p>This appointment is scheduled for about 1 week after your PET scan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your surgeon reviews the results of your PET scan with you.</li> <li>• If your treatment plan includes surgery, it is scheduled about 6 to 8 weeks after you finish treatment.</li> <li>• You may need more treatments after your surgery.</li> </ul>

Your healthcare team will tell you what the next steps in your care will be. This is not the same for every patient.