

PATIENT INTERVIEW GUIDE

Patient Preferences

1. After your diagnosis of pancreas cancer, what was your understanding of available treatment options?
Prompt: surgery; chemotherapy; radiation therapy; what was the best order?
2. Were multiple treatment options discussed with your doctor?
Prompt (if not discussed previously): surgery; neoadjuvant vs just adjuvant therapy chemotherapy; radiation therapy
Follow-up: who was the primary doctor informing you?
Prompt: medical oncologist, surgeon, MD vs NP, PCP, etc
3. Did the doctor make a recommendation? Walk me through how a decision was made to proceed with chemotherapy before surgery?
4. Did you receive a second opinion? What sources of information did you depend on when making the decision to undergo NT?
Prompt: Physician, other clinical personnel, educational materials, your own research, etc.
5. What is your understanding of the rationale to doing chemotherapy before surgery? How familiar are you with the advantages and disadvantages of giving chemotherapy before surgery?
6. Prior to meeting with your doctors, did you have a preference for a specific treatment plan?
Prompt: neoadjuvant therapy vs. surgery first vs. no surgery
FU: Did you feel like your preferences/concerns were taken into consideration?
7. In hindsight, do you have any recommendations on what would make it easier to understand your treatment options and how to help you make decisions about chemotherapy or surgery first?
Prompt: educational materials, further discussions with physician or other clinical personnel, other resources

Patient Experience

8. What challenges did you face when starting chemotherapy before surgery?
Prompt: Getting biopsy, having port placed, seeing a doctor, getting referrals, other barriers
FU: How was the process/experience overall?
9. Since starting NT, what challenges have you experienced with undergoing treatment?
Prompt: missing work, traveling to the facility, financial concerns, worsening condition, other personal concerns, etc.
10. Have you experienced challenges making appointments, contacting your doctors, tolerating therapy, getting answers to questions, etc?
11. What fears, concerns, and anxieties have you experienced regarding your treatment and/or the future?

Prompt: personal concerns, family/friends concerns, financial, etc.

FU: Do you feel like you have adequate emotional/ psychosocial support?

FU: What additional support from your healthcare team would be helpful?

12. What is your understanding of the role of surgery in your case?

FU: Do you view chemotherapy and/or radiation as *delaying* surgery? Has this delay/uncertainty caused any anxiety?

13. Any recommendations on how we can improve the process of starting/delivering chemotherapy before surgery?

Prompt: better coordination/communication, easier access to medications, more emotional support, a navigator to directly assist in the process?

Other

14. Is there anything else you would like to share with me?