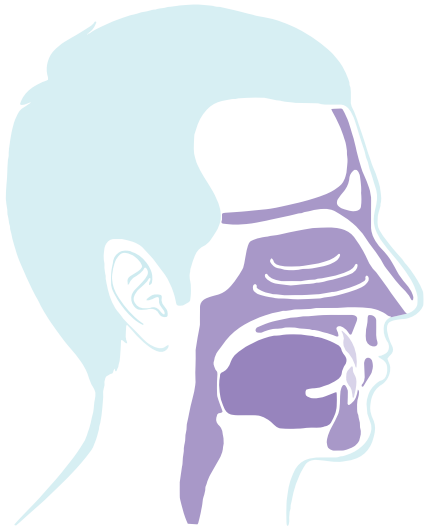


# QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT HEAD AND NECK CANCER

It is important to have honest, open discussions with the cancer care team. They can answer all questions to enable the patient to make informed treatment and life decisions. Some of the questions that may be included in a question checklist are listed below:



## WHEN INFORMED OF A HEAD AND NECK **CANCER DIAGNOSIS**

What type of head and neck cancer do I have?

Has the cancer spread? If so, where has it spread? How fast is it growing?

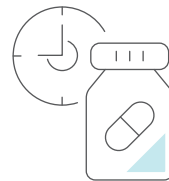
Are the latest tests and treatments for this cancer available in this hospital?

Will a multidisciplinary team be involved in my care?



## WHEN DECIDING ON A **TREATMENT PLAN**

- What treatment do you recommend?  
What is the aim of the treatment?
- Are there other treatment choices for me?  
If not, why not?
- If I don't have the treatment, what should I expect?
- How long will treatment take?  
Will I have to stay in hospital?
- How will we know if the treatment is working?
- I'm thinking of getting a second opinion.  
Can you recommend anyone?



## **DURING TREATMENT**

- What are the risks and possible side effects of each treatment?
- Will I experience pain?  
What will be done about this?
- Can I work, drive and do my normal activities while having treatment?
- Will my face or neck have significant scarring, or will I look different?
- What kind of rehabilitation can I have?



## **AFTER TREATMENT**

- How often will I need check-ups after treatment?
- If the cancer returns, how will I know? What treatments could I have?