

# Questions to Ask Your Doctor - Metastatic Disease

Informed and Empowered Ocular Melanoma Patients Live Longer, Better Lives.

## Metastatic Disease Related Questions:

- Where is my disease located?
- What additional scans do I need to determine the extent of the disease?
- Have you tested for genetic mutations? Will this direct us toward a particular treatment approach?
- Are there other treatments at different centres that I should learn about?
- Should I get a second opinion?
- If my disease is mainly in my liver, do you recommend liver-directed therapy or systemic therapy? What is the difference?
- Are systemic treatments like immunotherapy and traditional chemotherapy effective in OM?
- Can different treatments be combined? If so, would you suggest any?
- Are there different outcomes depending on the treatment?
- What are the side effects of each treatment?
- Do I have to travel for the treatment or can I receive it close to home?
- If I have to travel, do you know of any travel assistance programs available? Who would have this information at the different Cancer Agencies or Medical Centres?

- Will I be able to continue my normal daily life? How will it change?
- How might this impact my life and the lives of my family members?
- If I choose no treatment for my metastatic disease, what is my life expectancy?

## Follow-Up Treatment:

- Do I need a brain scan? Do I need one on a regular basis?
- Do I need the rest of my body scanned on a regular basis? What scans and how often?

## Clinical Trials Questions:

- Could you explain how trials work?
- What are disqualifying factors?
- How do I find out about different clinical trials?
- What clinical trials are recruiting in Canada at this time?
- Are there any clinical trials in other countries that I might be eligible for?
- What clinical trials would you recommend?
- Are there any patient costs to participating in a clinical trial?

This document was created with the permission of CureOM, an initiative of Melanoma Research Foundation [www.cureOM.org](http://www.cureOM.org)

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All references can be found on the Melanoma Research Foundation website at [www.melanoma.org](http://www.melanoma.org)