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CONSULTANTS

KIRSTEN GREENE, M.D.
MARSHALL L. STOLLER, M.D.
RAMÓN J. TERRAZAS, M.D.
KAREN HEALD, ESQ.



**SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS
CANCER PREVENTION
FOUNDATION**

1139 MISSION STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
TELEPHONE (415) 621-7103 • FAX (415) 621-1578
SFFCPF@YAHOO.COM

DIRECTORS
DAVID E. AMITUANAI
GARY MASSETANI
CATHY MORELAND
SHERMAN TILLMAN
VICTOR WYRSCH

**SAN FRANCISCO
FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 798
PRESIDENT:**
THOMAS P. O'CONNOR

Newly diagnosed firefighters with cancer often ask us what questions they should ask their doctor. Below is a list of questions you might consider. They are in no specific order and they do not pertain to any one specific type of cancer. You might choose some of these questions, or possibly all of them. As always we are available to assist you through the process.

- Is it possible that I may have been misdiagnosed?
- What type of cancer do I have and what is its specific name?
- What are the risk factors for my type of cancer?
- Where does this type of cancer usually spread to?
- Are there other tests that I need to take?
- Have you treated this type of cancer before?
- What stage is my cancer?
- Has the cancer spread beyond the initial site?
- What are my treatment modalities used for this type of cancer?
- Are there any clinical trials available for this type of cancer?
- What about targeted therapy for my type of cancer?
- How long will my treatment last?
- Can I use alternative forms of therapy in conjunction with conventional treatment?
- Are you comfortable working with an alternative health care provider?
- Should I have a University Center evaluate my case? (Second opinion)

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- Should I avoid anything during treatment?
- What can I do diet/health wise during treatment?
- What side effects may I experience during treatment?
- How do different types of treatment affect survival rates?
- What is the next step if treatment does not work?
- What are my chances that I will remain cancer free, or if it will return?
- What types of exposures increase the likelihood of getting this type of cancer?
- With each type of treatment and combination of treatments, what is the median (middle number) and mean (average) survival time for this type of cancer?
- With each type of treatment and combinations of treatments, how often does the cancer recur and if it does recur, what is the range of time in which it normally recurs.
- Can my family get assistance with my care if I am disabled?
- How comfortable are you completing workers' compensation paperwork?
- Are there support groups for me/and or my family?

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