

Your Dog Has Cancer. Here Are the Questions to Ask Before You Decide Anything.

You just got the diagnosis. You are sitting in the exam room or driving home and your brain has essentially left the building. You heard words. You nodded. You may have cried. And now you cannot remember half of what was said.

That is completely normal. That is what shock feels like.

This guide exists for exactly this moment. Print it out. Pull it up on your phone. Bring it to your oncology appointment and hand it to whoever is with you if you need to. You do not have to have it together to get the information you need. You just have to ask the questions.

So here they are. Five questions. That's it.

1

What is the behavior of this cancer?

How quickly does it grow? Where does it typically spread? Is it locally invasive or does it travel to distant organs? Understanding how this specific cancer behaves tells you everything about the urgency, the monitoring, and the decisions ahead.

2

Do we know the stage – and if not, what diagnostics are needed to find out?

Staging tells you how far the cancer has progressed. But it is not always automatic – it often requires additional testing. Ask what those tests are, what they involve, and what they cost before agreeing to them. Knowing the stage changes everything about the decision in front of you.

3

What is the survival time without any treatment?

This is your baseline. It is not a doom sentence – it is a reference point. Every other option gets measured against this number. You need it before you can evaluate anything else.

4

What is the survival time with the recommended treatment?

Ask how that number is measured. Is it median survival? What does quality of life look like during treatment – not just how long, but how well? Make sure you understand what you are trading and what you are gaining.

5

What does success look like with this treatment?

Are we talking remission? Stabilization? Quality of life management? Make sure you understand what the actual goal is before you commit to the path. Success means different things for different cancers and you deserve to know exactly what you are working toward.

Before You Leave – Remember This:

You do not have to decide anything today. A good oncologist will not pressure you to. Take the information home. Read it again when your brain comes back online. Talk to your people.

There are more options in front of you than the ones presented in that room.

Information is power. You now have it. Use it well.



Book a personalized consultation with Dr. Pam

Rooted in science, experience, intuition, and love – this is where guesswork ends and confidence begins. Walk away with a clear plan, a deeper understanding of your dog's needs, and the peace of knowing you're doing everything you can to give your dog the healthiest, happiest life possible.

EXPLORE CARE PLANS AT [REVITALIZINGPETCARE.COM](https://www.revitalizingpetcare.com).