

## PACE Sample Questions

### Sample Questions About Diagnosis and Prognosis

What is the medical condition called?

Why do I have this medical problem?

How serious is the medical condition? Can I expect complete recovery or will it remain the same or get worse?

Will this condition affect my normal activities? If so, how?

How long will I have to follow the treatment for this condition?  
How will I know if the condition is improving or getting worse?

Where can I find more information about the medical condition?

Are there support groups for this condition? If so, where may I contact them?

### Sample Questions about Tests or Procedures

If tests or procedures (e.g., an x-ray, CAT scan) are ordered, you may want to ask questions like these

What is the purpose of the test/procedure? What will it tell us?

Are there any risks in doing the test/procedure?

What does the test/procedure involve? For example:

Will it be painful?

How long does it take?

Will I be awake or asleep?

Do I need to bring someone with me?

Does it matter what I eat or drink?

Do I need to stop taking medications?

Who does the test/procedure?

How is it done, what steps are involved?

Where is it done?

Who schedules the test/procedure?

Is it covered by my insurance?

## Sample Questions About Medications

What is the name of the medication?

Why am I taking it? What does it do?

Does it have any side effects?

Will it interact with other medicines, vitamins or herbs I am taking?

How will I recognize negative reactions or effects? What should I do if I experience any of these?

Are there other choices? Is there a generic?

Do you have samples that I can try? (Really, it's OK to ask this!)

Are there ways to treat my condition without medication?

What will happen if I don't take the medicine?

How much better will I feel after taking the medicine?

How long until I feel better taking this medicine?

How should I take it? How often should I take it?

How long will I need to take it?

What should I do if I miss a dose?

## Sample Questions About Other Treatments

Why should I do it? What will it do?

How should I do it?

How often shall I do it?

How long will I need to do it?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of doing it?

When will I see results?

How will I recognize negative reactions or effects?

Are there risks?

What will happen if I don't do it?

Are there other choices?