

Questions to Ask Your Doctor

Testing for [primary immunodeficiency disease](#) (PI) can take many months – and after the diagnosis, there are decisions to make. Here are some questions to consider asking your doctor once you've been diagnosed.

QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT TREATMENT

- What is the specific type of primary immunodeficiency I have?
- What therapies are available to treat it?
- Which treatment do you recommend and why?
- Are there alternatives to this approach?
- How long will treatment be required?
- How will I know if the therapy option I choose is working?
- Will I be able to change my mind?

QUESTIONS ON INTRAVENOUS IMMUNOGLOBULIN (IVIG) THERAPY

- What is the goal of IgG therapy?
- What are infusions like?
- What brand of IVIG will you prescribe and why?
- How will you determine my dosage? Will it be adjusted?
- Do I have a choice of locations – hospital, infusion suite, or home?
- What are possible side-effects? How should they be managed?
- Will I need any pre- or post-medication?
- Is there anything I need to do to prepare myself (or my child)?

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QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT LIVING WITH PI

- Who will be my main point of contact – you or my primary care doctor?
- Can I do anything to help prevent infections?
- Are there restrictions I should follow?
- What vaccines do you recommend? Are there any I should be avoiding?
- Is there a specific medical diet or nutritional guidelines you would recommend?
- Is there a known genetic cause for this type of PI? If so, how will I know if other family members need to be tested?
- What risk factors related to PI should I be aware of?
- What's the long-term prognosis?
- Do I need to see any other specialists?
- Who should I call if I get sick?
- Who can help me with insurance details?