

Questions to ask your health-care professional

These are some suggestions for questions that you could ask your health-care professional based on the concerns you have identified.

Diagnosis and cure	1	
I don't think enough has been done to find out what is wrong.		Is there anything more that could be done to find out what is wrong?
		Have all reasonable tests been carried out?
		Should I see a pain specialist about my condition?
I don't know the cause of this		What is causing my pain?
condition.		Why did nothing show up on my scan?
		Can you explain my diagnosis again?
I don't understand my diagnosis.		Do you have any written information on this?
		The feedback from my scan was 'wear and tear'. What does this mean?
My pain is not getting any better.		Are there other treatment options that we haven't tried yet?
		How can I tell whether or not my symptoms mean I should get immediate medical help?
My pain is getting worse.		Should I see a pain specialist about my condition?
		Is my pain going to keep on getting worse?
Changes to my life	✓	Is my pain going to keep on getting worse?
	✓ ————————————————————————————————————	Is my pain going to keep on getting worse? What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends?
Changes to my life I see my family and friends.	✓ 	What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and
	Image: Control of the control of	What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends?
I see my family and friends.		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends?
		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends? Are there any restrictions on me going back to work?
I see my family and friends. I am able to continue in or return		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends? Are there any restrictions on me going back to work? What help is available to me for getting back to work? How am I going to be able to cope with work after being off because
I see my family and friends. I am able to continue in or return		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends? Are there any restrictions on me going back to work? What help is available to me for getting back to work? How am I going to be able to cope with work after being off because of my pain?
I see my family and friends. I am able to continue in or return to work.		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends? Are there any restrictions on me going back to work? What help is available to me for getting back to work? How am I going to be able to cope with work after being off because of my pain? Is there anything I should stop or avoid doing?
I see my family and friends. I am able to continue in or return to work. I am doing my usual day-to-day		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends? Are there any restrictions on me going back to work? What help is available to me for getting back to work? How am I going to be able to cope with work after being off because of my pain? Is there anything I should stop or avoid doing? What strategies can I use to make sure I can do everything I need to?
I see my family and friends. I am able to continue in or return to work. I am doing my usual day-to-day tasks at home.		What strategies can I use to make sure I can still enjoy time with family and friends? How can I explain my pain to family and friends? Are there any restrictions on me going back to work? What help is available to me for getting back to work? How am I going to be able to cope with work after being off because of my pain? Is there anything I should stop or avoid doing? What strategies can I use to make sure I can do everything I need to? Is there anything I should stop or avoid doing?

Questions to ask your health-care professional

The way I'm feeling	✓	
I feel embarrassed that I can't do the things I used to.		How can I get back to doing the same things that I used to?
		What is available to help me deal with these negative feelings?
		How can I explain to people about the effect my pain has on me?
I feel in a low mood.		What can I do to stop feeling so low?
		What help is available to me for these negative feelings?
I feel stressed.		What can I do to stop feeling so stressed?
		What is available to help me deal with these negative feelings?
I feel that people are judging me.		What is available to help me deal with these negative feelings?
I feel lonely and isolated.		How can I connect with other people who are going through the same thing?
		How can I explain to people about the effect my pain has on me?
My medication	√	
My medication	✓	Can you tell me what all my medications do?
I am concerned about the		Can you tell me what all my medications do? Will I become addicted to the medications I am taking?
I am concerned about the		Will I become addicted to the medications I am taking? Are there other ways to treat this condition that does not involve
I am concerned about the amount of medication I'm taking. I am concerned about the combination of medicine I'm taking.		Will I become addicted to the medications I am taking? Are there other ways to treat this condition that does not involve medication?
I am concerned about the amount of medication I'm taking. I am concerned about the combination of medicine I'm		Will I become addicted to the medications I am taking? Are there other ways to treat this condition that does not involve medication? How do these medicines affect one another?
I am concerned about the amount of medication I'm taking. I am concerned about the combination of medicine I'm taking. I am concerned about the side		Will I become addicted to the medications I am taking? Are there other ways to treat this condition that does not involve medication? How do these medicines affect one another? What are the side effects of all the medication I am taking?