

FAQs - Screening



01

Do I have to complete the screening?

A: Yes, London Regional Cancer Program requires that you complete the screen at each clinic and patient review appointment. The information helps your health care team identify symptoms that may be of concern and allows them to track your symptoms over time.

Where does this information go?

A: Your answers are kept confidential and stored in your electronic medical record. Your health care team will review your symptom screen before your appointment. During your appointment, your health care team will ask about the symptoms you have flagged as a concern.

Q3

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02

How does the scale work?

A: 0 means you are not having that symptom and 10 means the symptom is the worst it could possibly be.

How do I know what the symptom means?

A: There is additional information at the bottom of the screen for some of the symptoms. Rate the symptoms to the best of your ability, but get clarification surrounding any confusion from your health care team. Some definitions for symptoms that cause confusion/need clarification are:

- o Tiredness = lack of energy or low energy level
- Drowsiness = feeling sleepy
- o Depression = feeling sad
- Anxiety = feeling nervous or restless
- Wellbeing = how you feel overall

Q5

Do I answer the questions about cancer related symptoms only?

A: Scores should reflect your overall assessment of the symptom and not just what you believe is related to cancer or its treatment. Rate your symptoms to the best of your ability and discuss this question directly with your health care team.

06

Do I answer the questions about my symptoms since my last visit?

A: Scores should reflect your assessment of the symptom at the time the screen is completed. You should also talk to your health care team about any severe symptoms you experience between appointments that are not captured on your symptom screening (e.g. may not be nauseous at time of screen, but may still have concerns re: nausea following treatment). Health care teams also evaluate symptom severity between appointments as part of their assessment.

Q7

What if a symptom does not apply to me?

A: A score of zero means you do not have this symptom. Rate your symptoms to the best of your ability and discuss this question directly with your health care team.

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I have a symptom that is not listed. What do I do?

A: Complete the symptom screening but bring up the additional symptom(s) you are concerned about as part of your appointment.

Q9

What if none of the categories of daily living apply to me?

A: Pick the category that is the closest fit and discuss this question directly with your health care team.

Q10

How can I incorporate my screening results into my appointment if my health care team does not bring them up?

A: The screening is a resource intended to empower patients as partners in their care. If not addressed, you should bring up any symptoms or changes in daily living that you are concerned about during your appointment.

Q11

Do I rate how well I can do day-to-day activities at the time I complete the screening?

A: No. Unlike the symptoms which are rated based on severity at the time of the screening, you rate how well you can do day-to-day activities over the month prior to your assessment.