



Cancer treatments can cause changes to a woman's fertility and sexuality. It's important to talk with your provider to learn what to expect before starting treatment.

Side Effects - **Sexual and fertility problems (women)**

Many cancer treatments and some types of cancer can cause sexual and fertility-related side effects. Whether you have these problems depends on the type of treatment(s) you receive, your age at time of treatment and the length of time since treatment.

Before starting treatment talk with your health care team to learn about:

- **Infertility.** Ask if treatment could lower your fertility or make you infertile. If you would like to have children after treatment, talk with your provider or nurse before you start treatment. Learn ahead of time about options such as embryo banking, ovarian tissue banking, ovarian transposition and clinical trials for egg banking.
- **Pregnancy.** It is important to prevent pregnancy during treatment and for some time after treatment. Ask about different methods of birth control.
- **Sexual activity.** Ask if it is okay for you to be sexually active during treatment.

Talk with your health care team

Sexual and sexuality-related questions

- What problems or changes might I have during treatment?
- How long might these problems last? Will any be permanent?
- Is there treatment for these problems?
- Would you give me the name of a specialist that I could meet with?
- Is there a support group for women that you would recommend?

Fertility-related questions

- Will my fertility be affected by the treatment I receive?
- What are my options now if I would like to have children in the future?
- Could you give me the name of a fertility specialist who I can talk with to learn more?
- After treatment, how long should I use birth control?
