

Childhood Leukemia: Working With Your Care Team

When your child has leukemia, one of the scariest and most difficult parts of the journey is the first time you see your child in the hospital.

Your care team understands this. They can help you by explaining what's happening along the way.

The team includes doctors, nurses, and others who are experienced and devoted to your child.

During the journey, many people get to know the team really well.

The team members will teach you what you can do for your child and will answer your questions. They work together to make your child as comfortable as possible.

They may have ideas about how to put your child at ease before any treatment.

Your team can also help you explain to your child what to expect during a medical test or the reasons for taking any of the medicines.

Knowing what to expect can ease your feelings during treatment.

Your doctor or others on the care team can tell you how long visits or treatment will take, including time in the waiting room.

You can be an advocate for your child by telling the care team if you don't understand something or if you or your child needs help.

Knowing more about what to expect during your child's treatment can go a long way to helping you feel strong.

When you need extra strength, try reaching out to others.

This can include family, friends, and counselors.

You don't have to do this alone.

At the same time, it can be hard to rely on others to care for your child.

But remember, to your child, you are the most important member of your child's care team.