Tau hūhū ne liga manako a koe ke hūhū
Questions you may wish to ask

Hātakiaga ma lautolu kua moua he gagao kenesā
A guide for people with cancer
Introduction

Cancer is a disease of the body’s cells. Our bodies are always making new cells to replace worn-out cells, or to heal damaged cells after injury. This process is controlled by certain genes: the codes that tell our cells how to heal and behave. Cancers are caused by damage to these genes. This damage usually happens during our lifetime, although a small number of people inherit a damaged gene from a parent when they are born. If genes are damaged they can behave abnormally. They may grow into a tumour (lump) which may be benign (not cancer) or malignant (cancer).

Benign tumours do not spread to other areas of the body whereas cancer has the ability to spread.

Cancer is not catching. It cannot be passed from one person to another.

There are many ways of treating cancer such as surgery, chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Talk to your doctor about what is best for you. Many cancers can be successfully treated.
When you hear you have cancer you and your family may feel understandably frightened and you may have many questions. Having your questions answered can help you feel in control of your situation. Here is a list of questions to help you make the most of your time with your doctor.

1 Ko e heigoa e higoa he gagao kenesā haaku?  
What is the name of my cancer?

2 Toka he mena fē he tino haaku?  
Where is it in my body?
3 Lauia fēfē e tino haaku he gagao kenesā?
   How is the cancer affecting my body?

4 Ko e heigoa e tau tiviaga haaku kua lata ke taute?
   What tests do I need?

5 To moua e au a fē e tau katoatoaga?
   When will I know the results?

6 Ko e heigoa he tau tiviaga ka fakakite mai?
   What will the tests tell us?

7 Ko e heigoa e tau tului ne hahā i ai?
   What treatments are available?

8 Ko e heigoa e amaamanakiaga he tului?
   What is the aim of the treatment?
9 Līgāliga fēfē to gahua e tulu?  
What is the probability of it working?

10 Fai kumikumiaga tulu? nakai ne maeke au ke matutaki atu ki ai?  
Is there a clinical trial I can join?

11 To finatu ka au ke he fale gagao ke moua e tulu?  
Will I have to have treatment in hospital?

12 Iloa fēfē e koe ko e aoga e tulu?  
How do you check treatment is working?

13 Ko e heigoa e tauteaga ka nakai gahua e tulu?  
If treatment is not working what is the plan?
14 Ko e heigoa falu a lekua ka moua mai ai?
   Are there any side-effects?

15 Kua lata ka ia au ke taute taha fuafuaaga kai pauaki
    ke muitua ki ai?
   Should I follow a special diet?

17 Maeke nakai au ke gahua?
   Can I work?

18 Lauia nakai haku moui fakalalolagi (sex) hā ko e tului?
   Will the treatment affect my sex life?

16 Lauia nakai e fai tama haaku hā ko e tului?
   Will treatment affect my fertility?
19 Maeke nakai au ke faofao?
Can I exercise?

20 Maeke nakai au ke fano fenoga?
Can I travel?

21 Fano au ki fé ke moua lagomatai?
Where can I go for support?

22 To fai mena nakai au ke totogi?
Will I have to pay for anything?

23 Ko e heigoa e mena ka tupu ka nākai maeke e gagao kenesā haaku he tului?
What will happen if my cancer can not be controlled?
For cancer information and support phone 0800 CANCER (226 237) or go to www.cancernz.org.nz

These booklets are provided in the following languages:

- Arabic
- Chinese Simplified
- Chinese Traditional
- Cook Island Maori
- English
- Gujarati
- Hindi
- Korean
- Maori
- Niuean
- Samoan
- Tongan

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