

Standing ^{UP} POTS

Questions for Your New Physician to Set Expectations for Your Relationship

I WAS WONDERING IF YOU, AS MY DOCTOR, WOULD BE WILLING TO...

- Research my condition(s)?** I have an interesting medical case, as I have uncommon health issues. Would you be willing to read brochures, research articles, internet sites or other information to learn about my condition?
- Take the time to answer all of my questions?** Would you schedule me at the end of your day or allow me to register for a double appointment so you have a few extra minutes to help me understand my illness and medications?
- Oversee my care in a timely manner when I am flaring?** Unfortunately, my health can deteriorate rapidly and without warning. Will you see me in the office the same day when my health is particularly bad or oversee my care by phone at the emergency room of your choosing?
- Continue current orders for prescriptions, therapy, and/or IV infusions?** If I transfer to your care, would you be willing to take over writing orders for treatments that I need?
- Work with other physicians to facilitate my care?** I am building a team of physicians to help me manage my health conditions. Would you be willing to share information and accept suggestions from other members of my healthcare team?
- Read summaries from phone consultations with experts in the field?** Few physicians truly understand POTS and my other medical conditions. Would you be willing to use information gained from my phone consultations with the specialists in my continuing care?
- Offer a way for me to access my own records on my computer?** It is important for me to print and carry my test results when I visit other physicians on my healthcare team.
- Communicate with me directly via MyChart or email?** Leaving messages with the nurse is inefficient and often takes a long time for a return call. Faster, more detailed communication without the middle person can really help in a complex case like mine.
- Fill prescriptions over the phone?** Because of my chronic illness, getting to your office is often difficult for me. Could I call your office to renew my prescription medications?
- Communicate with insurance companies on my behalf?** Sometimes insurance companies fight cost effective treatments like IV fluids or vitamin B12 shots at home that make me feel much better. Will you fight to get the tests and treatments that I need?