QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR DOCTOR

Diagnosis
What can you tell me about my brain tumor type?
How molecular testing is conducted to ensure accuracy of tumor type?
What is a prognosis, with and without treatment?
Has any patients with my tumor type died in the past year?

Treatment
What are my treatment options? What are the goals of treatment? Can treatment wait?
If radiation is recommended, what is the difference between whole brain radiation treatment (WBRT) and stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS)?
Considering the cognitive decline associated with WBRT, would SRS be better suited for me?
Is SRS available at your treatment center? If not, are there alternatives?
If WBRT is the best treatment, how do you recommend preserving my cognitive functioning?
What are the risks and benefits of each treatment? What are common treatment side effects?
How will treatment affect my daily activities?
How do you determine if the treatment is effective? What follow-up tests do you recommend?
What are the possible long-term effects of each treatment?
What do you recommend if my tumor is progressing but not yet serious?
If treatment fails, what is the next step?
If I experience significant side effects, what is the next step?
How do you expect my brain tumor to progress? Will it spread or come back after treatment?
Are there alternative treatment options? Would a clinical trial be right for me?
Do you recommend getting a second opinion? Whom would you recommend I consult?

Support Services
What survivorship services are available to me or my family?