

## Questions to ask your doctor

Here are just a few questions you or a family member should ask to guide your decision:

- What are the options to treat my condition?
- What are the alternatives to open surgery?
- Is there a minimally invasive choice?
- Does this procedure require general anesthesia?
- What are the risks of the procedure?
- What are the possible complications of the procedure?
- What is the recovery time for the procedure?
- Where can I get a consultation from an interventional radiologist?

## Interventional Radiology

Breakthroughs in technology and imaging have created new treatment options for patients. In this new era of medicine, there is no longer one "right way" to handle a condition.

Interventional Radiology (IR) is a therapeutic and diagnostic specialty that comprises a wide range of minimally invasive image-guided therapeutic procedures as well as invasive diagnostic imaging. The range of diseases and organs responsive to image-guided therapeutic and diagnostic procedures are extensive, constantly evolving, and include the majority of the body's organ systems. These procedures have less risk, less pain and less recovery time compared to open surgery.

As part of the Interventional Radiology practice, the IR physician provides patient evaluation and management relevant to image-guided interventions in collaboration with other physicians or independently. Interventional radiology procedures have become an integral part of medical care.

If you are considering open surgery or have a challenging disease or medical condition, talk to your doctor and investigate your treatment options. Ask for a consultation with an interventional radiologist.