

Follow-up after Intervention for Kidney Cancer



Urologists recommend follow-up after kidney surgery (partial or radical nephrectomy) or other interventions (tumor ablation or radiation) for many important reasons.

Why is follow-up so important?

Follow-up care after intervention for kidney cancer is important because it allows your medical provider to: monitor your recovery, detect potential complications early, check the function of your remaining kidney(s), and identify any recurrence of cancer.

What happens during follow-up?

Your provider may order the following 1 to 2 times per year:

1. Blood tests to evaluate kidney function and markers of cancer recurrence
2. Imaging of abdomen and chest (CT, MRI, Ultrasound, or X-ray)
3. Follow-up with a medical professional familiar with your care to review results



What is the risk of recurrence?

The highest risk of your kidney cancer coming back is within three years. Your risk relates to the tumor's size, stage, and grade. It is important to continue to follow-up with your health care provider/ team according to the advised schedule.

You and your physician(s) will decide how often you should get imaging, labs, and follow-up. To help keep track of your visits, please use the appointment tracker below.

Imaging and Labs

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Scheduled	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Completed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Follow-Up

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Scheduled	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Completed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



This document is designed for adult patient education. For additional information regarding this informational resource or the Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative, please contact us at:

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