Questions to Ask When Selecting A Hospital

1. At what hospitals do you have privileges? What hospital are you recommending for my treatment and why?

2. What kind of hospital is it (teaching, community, specialty, tertiary care)?

3. Is this facility accredited by The Joint Commission? If so, what is the accreditation status?
   - Accreditation with Commendation
   - Full Accreditation
   - Accreditation with Recommendations for Improvement
   - Conditional Accreditation
   - Provisional Accreditation

   What does this accreditation status mean?

4. Is this hospital within my health insurance network?

5. What is Board Certification, and what percentage of the staff of the hospital are Board Certified in their field?

6. How experienced is the department that will be providing my medical care?

7. How many times is the test/procedure/surgery that I am having performed each year at this hospital?

8. What are the hospital’s success and complication rates for this test/procedure/surgery?

9. What is the average length of stay for this procedure or medical condition? And, what is the relationship between length of stay and quality of care in this situation?

10. What is the nurse to bed ratio (number of nurses to patients)?

11. What is your experience with the staff at this hospital? What kind of feedback do you get from your other patients?
12. Does the hospital have onsite ancillary services, such as physical therapy, pain management, case management, social workers, etc.?

13. Are services such as radiology, laboratory, phlebotomy (blood-drawing) and language translators available 24 hours a day?

14. Are the patient rooms clean, comfortable, and private?

15. If I am willing to travel, is there another hospital in this region that is recognized for this treatment? Can you refer me to a specialist affiliated with that facility?