BLACK INJURY NETWORK

DON'T GET PLAYED

20 MUST-ASK QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU CHOOSE AN ATTORNEY OR INJURY CLINIC

A practical checklist for people navigating an accident, medical care, and possible legal representation.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Bring these questions to your first appointment or consultation. Write down the answers, compare options, and choose professionals based on qualifications, communication, cost, and your needs. You are not required to use a particular doctor or attorney.

This guide is educational, not medical or legal advice. It does not promise a diagnosis, legal result, or settlement amount. For emergencies, call 911.

Choosing an Injury Clinic

1. Who will actually evaluate me?

Ask for the clinician’s name, credentials, license, and role in your care.

2. What symptoms should prompt urgent medical attention?

Ask about red flags, including worsening headache, weakness, confusion, chest pain, or breathing trouble.

3. What diagnoses are being considered, and how will you assess them?

Request an explanation of the examination, clinical reasoning, and possible alternatives.

4. Is imaging necessary for my symptoms?

Ask what question the imaging would answer, what the risks are, and whether waiting is appropriate.

5. What treatment do you recommend, and why?

Ask about expected benefits, risks, alternatives, and what happens if you decline.

6. How will we measure whether treatment is helping?

Request specific functional goals, reassessment dates, and criteria for changing the plan.

7. Who coordinates referrals to specialists?

Clarify when an orthopedist, neurologist, physical therapist, or other specialist may be appropriate.

8. What will treatment cost, and who is responsible for payment?

Ask about insurance, out-of-pocket charges, liens, letters of protection, and payment regardless of case outcome.

9. Can I get copies of my records and itemized bills?

Ask how to request records, expected turnaround times, and any lawful fees.

10. Can I choose or change my provider?

Confirm your freedom to seek another opinion or choose a different clinic.

Choosing a Personal-Injury Attorney

11. Who will handle my case day to day?

Ask which attorney and staff members will communicate with you and how often.

12. Are you licensed and experienced with cases like mine?

Confirm state bar status and experience with the relevant type of accident.

13. What deadlines could affect my claim?

Ask about statutes of limitation, notice requirements, and preservation of evidence.

14. How do your fees and case expenses work?

Request the fee agreement in writing, including contingency percentages and costs owed if no recovery occurs.

15. What information should I preserve now?

Ask about photos, witness details, medical records, correspondence, and digital evidence.

16. Should I speak to an insurer or sign a release?

Ask what obligations apply before making detailed statements or signing documents.

17. How do you evaluate the strengths and risks of a claim?

Ask for a balanced explanation; no attorney can guarantee a settlement or outcome.

18. What happens if I disagree with a settlement recommendation?

Clarify who makes the final decision and how options will be explained.

19. How will medical bills and liens be addressed?

Ask how outstanding balances and reimbursements affect the net amount you may receive.

20. Can I choose my own medical provider independently?

Confirm that legal representation and medical treatment are separate decisions.

YOUR NEXT STEPS

Write down your questions. Keep copies of bills and records. If you want to explore participating Black healthcare professionals or attorneys, visit Black Injury Network. Your medical and legal choices remain independent.

BLACK INJURY NETWORK | Connecting Our Community to Care and Justice