Cancer can be scary and confusing. Your provider will go over common side effects from your cancer treatment, and one of those side effects may be problems with fertility. Because everyone is different, talk to your oncologist about your specific situation. We are here to help you get through this!

Q: Do I have to delay treatment?
A: In many cases, no.

Q: Will fertility preservation impact my cancer and/or treatment?
A: It will not affect your cancer or treatment.

Q: Can I wait until after I finish my treatment to decide about fertility preservation?
A: It is important to talk to your doctor about your risk for fertility problems before you start cancer treatment, as some preservation options may not work once you start and/or after you finish treatment.

Resources
Connecticut Children’s Comprehensive Fertility and Sexual Health Team
www.connecticutchildrens.org/fertility

Save My Fertility
www.savemyfertility.org

Take Charge
www.letstakecharge.org

Financial Help
Fertility Within Reach
www.fertilitywithinreach.org

Verna’s Purse/ReproTech
www.reprotech.com

Livestrong
www.livestrong.org/fertility

For more information, please visit us online:
CONNECTICUTCHILDRENS.ORG/FERTILITY
So, what is my risk for fertility problems?
Everyone is different. Your provider will classify you as 'low' 'moderate' or 'high' risk for developing fertility problems in the future. Your risk level depends on:

- Your age at the time of treatment
- Which chemotherapy treatments you will receive
- How much chemotherapy you will receive
- If you receive radiation:
  - Where on your body it will be
  - How much you will receive

Established methods
- **Sperm banking**
  This involves providing a sperm sample to freeze for later use.
- **Testicular sperm extraction**
  This option is for those who cannot produce a sperm sample. It involves a surgical procedure to extract sperm from the tissue. The sperm will be frozen for future use.
- **Radiation shielding**
  This involves using a removable lead shield over the testicles to protect them during radiation therapy.

Experimental Methods
- **Testicular tissue cryopreservation (TTC)**
  This option is experimental. It includes removing tissue from the testicle to freeze and re-implant in the future. It is a surgery but may be done at the same time as other procedures you may need for cancer treatment.

Family Building Options
Adoption or donor sperm. Create your own family any way you choose!