questions to ask your doctor

I. Diagnosis Questions

How was it determined that I have Stage II melanoma?
Were there concerning features on the biopsy such as ulceration or a high mitotic rate?

II. Treatment Questions

Will I have a wide local excision?
Do you have a recommendation for a surgeon for SLNB?
If yes, how much experience does this surgeon have doing this procedure?
Are you concerned with any other moles/lesions on my body?

III. What is my Prognosis?

What type of follow-up will I need?
What treatment plan do you recommend? Why?
Should I consider adjuvant treatment?
What are the side effects?
Do you recommend I see a medical oncologist? Why or why not?

IV. Clinical Trials

What are clinical trials?
Should I consider enrolling in a clinical trial? Why or why not?

IV. Additional Questions

How often should I go for a skin exam?
What are the chances of my melanoma recurring?
What are the chances of my developing a new melanoma?
What can I do to reduce my risk of developing another melanoma?
What is the risk of my family members developing melanoma?