Leukemia

Leukemia is a type of cancer that forms in the blood and bone marrow, which is the spongy tissue inside bone where blood cells are made.

The four major types of this blood cancer are acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL), acute myelogenous leukemia (AML), chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), and chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML).

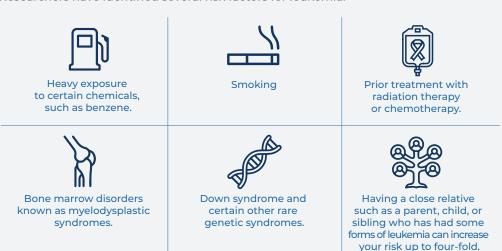
Common Symptoms and Signs

The symptoms and signs of leukemia can be caused by many other conditions. If you develop any of the following changes and they persist, see a doctor.

Flu-like symptoms	Unintended weight loss
Lack of energy	Tenderness in bones and joints
Loss of strength	Pain or "full" feeling on the left side of the abdomen
Frequent infections	Swelling in the neck, underarm, groin, or stomach
Bleeding or swollen gums	Bruising and bleeding
Pale skin	

Risk Factors

Researchers have identified several risk factors for leukemia:





Who Gets Leukemia?



Leukemia can occur at any stage of life. However, **age influences** the risk for specific forms of leukemia.



Most common in children: ALL and AML.

Most common in adults: AML and CLL.



The major forms of leukemia are slightly more common in males

than females.

However, some forms (such as CLL) can be **more aggressive in women.**

How Common Is Leukemia?



Around the world, there are about 475_0 00 **new cases**

of leukemia diagnosed each year.

• The incidence of leukemia is highest in

Australia and New Zealand, Northern America, and western Europe.

 Incidence is lowest in western Africa.

• In the United States



• About 24_9000 people died

• In the United States, leukemia accounts for about 302 percent of all new cancer cases and 309 percent of all cancer deaths.

• Leukemia is the one most common cancer in the United States.



Estimated number of **clinical trials** leukemia treatments around the world that are recruiting patients:

About 1200.



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