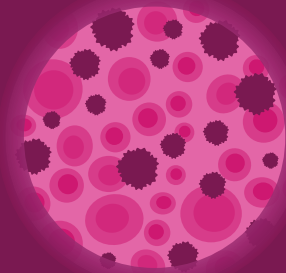












Understanding Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)



What is CLL?

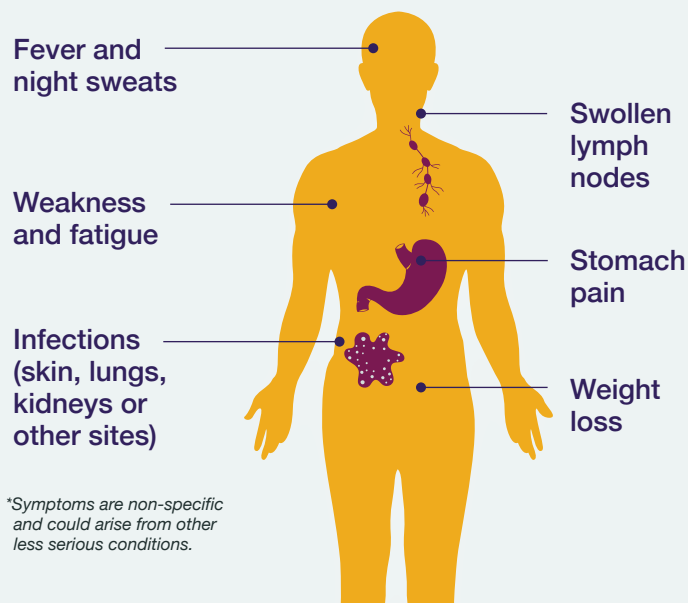
-  **Leukemia is a type of cancer found in the blood and bone marrow** and is caused by the rapid production of abnormal white blood cells.¹
-  In CLL, **cancerous cells crowd the blood and bone marrow** leaving less room for healthy white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets. This can lead to infection, anemia and bleeding.²
-  Compared to CLL, where most cancer cells are found in the blood and bone marrow, **small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL) cancer cells are mostly concentrated in the lymph nodes.**³
-  **The majority of CLL patients have multiple concurrent health conditions** (eg, hypertension, heart disease, diabetes), though disease progression and CLL-related complications including infections and second cancers are the primary causes of death.⁴
-  **There are two different types of CLL.** The **slower-growing type** can remain stable for years and may not require immediate treatment. The **faster-growing type** is more aggressive and may need to be treated quickly.⁵

CLL Fast Facts

-  CLL is the **most common type of leukemia** in adults, with an estimated 20,160 new cases in the US in 2022.^{6,7}
-  **Men are nearly twice as likely to have CLL** than women.⁸
-  The average age at time of diagnosis is **approximately 70 years.**⁹
-  **Many patients do not have any symptoms upon diagnosis.** CLL is often found in blood tests for unrelated health problems or during a routine check-up.¹⁰
-  Though **the survival rate for patients varies based on the stage of the disease at diagnosis**, the 5-year survival rate for CLL patients is approximately 87%.^{7,9}

Common Symptoms*

Generally, CLL symptoms develop over time. As the disease progresses, a person may experience^{10,11}:



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