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# **Acute Myeloid Leukemia**

# What is acute myeloid leukemia (AML)?

AML is a rare and aggressive cancer of the blood and bone marrow.<sup>1</sup>

It prevents white blood cells from maturing, causing an accumulation of "blasts" which do not allow room for the normal blood cells.<sup>1</sup>



#### ...OF ALL ADULT LEUKEMIAS WORLDWIDE ARE ATTRIBUTED TO AML,

with the highest incident rates occuring in the United States, Europe and Australia.<sup>2</sup>

### **AML Prognosis**

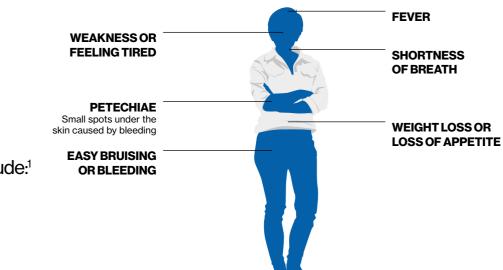
Prognosis varies per person and depends upon a number of factors, including:<sup>1</sup>

- Age
- Medical history
- Stage of disease
- Subtype and genetic mutations



## **AML Symptoms**

Signs and symptoms of AML may be vague and could be confused with those of other common diseases. Symptoms include:<sup>1</sup>



# **AML Diagnosis**

#### A diagnosis for AML is based upon:<sup>1</sup>

- Physical exam and medical history
- Complete blood count (CBC) To measure proportion of each type of blood cell present
- Bone marrow aspiration and biopsy Sample of cells taken from bone marrow
- Immunophenotyping To identify different types of cells

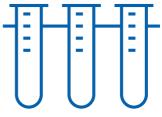


• Blood smear To examine the number and shape of different blood cells present present and subtype of AML

• Genetic testing To identify if any mutations are present and determine subtype of AML

### **Role of gene mutations in AML**

• Mutations in specific genes are found in many cases of AML.<sup>3</sup> These mutations cause the cells to multiply and remain immature, thereby leading to the development and spread of the disease.<sup>3</sup>



- **Mutation testing** is recommended for newly diagnosed patients to help identify factors that may determine prognosis.<sup>4</sup>
- According to one study, the most common gene mutations in AML include FLT3 (37%), NPM1 (29%), DNMT3A (23%) and NRAS (10%).<sup>5</sup>

## **Patient Demographics**

Risk factors include:1

- Being male
- Smoking
- 67 MEDIAN AGE at diagnosis<sup>6</sup>

- Previous cancer treatment
- Exposure to radiation

# Novartis is committed to the AML community and the unmet needs of these patients.

#### Resources

- 1 National Institute of Health (NIH) National Cancer Institute (NCI). Adult Acute Myeloid Leukemia Treatment (PDQ®) http://www.cancer.gov/types/leukemia/patient/adult-aml-treatment-pdq. Accessed February 20, 2017.
- 2 Deschler B, Lübbert M. Acute myeloid leukemia: epidemiology and etiology. Cancer. 2006;107(9):2009-2107.
- 3 American Cancer Society. Do we know what causes acute myeloid leukemia? http://www.cancer.org/cancer/leukemiaacutemyeloidaml/detailedguide/leukemia-acute-myeloid-myelogenous-what-causes. Accessed February 20, 2017.

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- 4 NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®) Version 2.2016 Acute Myeloid Leukemia. http://www.nccn. org/professionals/physician\_gls/pdf/aml. pdf. Accessed February 20, 2017.
- 5 Patel JP, Gönen M, Figueroa ME et al. Prognostic relevance of integrated genetic profiling in acute myeloid leukemia. N Engl J Med. 2012;366(12):1079-1089.
- 6 NIH NCI. Cancer Stat Facts: Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/amyl.html. Accessed February 20, 2017.

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