

# Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

**UCSF** Helen Diller Family  
Comprehensive  
Cancer Center

The **UCSF Patient and Family Cancer Support Center** is the hub of support, information and resources for people with cancer at the **Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center**. Learn more about UCSF's supportive care programs at <https://cancer.ucsf.edu/support/crc/patient-support-center>

The **Cancer Support Center at Mission Bay** is located at 1825 4th St., 1st Floor, Room M-1210. The **Cancer Support Center at Mt. Zion** is located at 1600 Divisadero St., 1st Floor, Room B-101.

The complete list of Patient Education Resource Pages is available to view at <http://cancer.ucsf.edu/support/crc/patient-education-resources>

## Overview

Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is a cancer of primitive white blood cells in the bone marrow. It is the most common type of acute leukemia seen in adults, accounting for 80 percent of such cases. There are two major types:

**Acute Myeloid Leukemia, Non-APL:** Characterized by the overproduction of primitive myeloid cells called blasts, resulting in reduced production of neutrophils (infection-fighting white blood cells), red blood cells and platelets. The prognosis of this form of AML depends on the presence (and type) or absence of chromosome changes in the leukemia cells. It is treated with chemotherapy.

**M3 Myeloid Leukemia, Non-APL:** Characterized by the presence of atypical promyelocytes in the bone marrow and peripheral blood, this type of leukemia can be associated with severe bleeding. A translocation between chromosomes 15 and 17 commonly occurs and suggests a better prognosis. This condition represents approximately 10 percent to 15 percent of AML cases. It is treated with chemotherapy, a vitamin A derivative called ATRA, and arsenic. Website: <https://www.ucsfhealth.org/conditions/acute-myeloid-leukemia>



# UCSF Resources

## UCSF Hematology and Oncology

The faculty of the Divisions of Hematology & Medical Oncology - managed separately at the UCSF Medical Center at Parnassus, the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center at Mount Zion, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center, and the San Francisco VA Health Care System - are leaders in the fields of cancer care and blood disorders. For over thirty years, our faculty has passionately pursued its mission to enhance individual lives around the world by improving the treatment of cancer and blood disorders. For patients suffering from these conditions, we discover and implement medical advances that have improved survival rates and quality of life. Website: <https://hemonc.ucsf.edu/> | Phone Number: (415) 353-2421

## Publications

Cancer Support Community: “Looking at Leukemias: Acute Myeloid Leukemia” (Videos)

Over the past few years, a number of exciting scientific advances have been made in treating Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). This episode takes a close look at the new treatments and testing being used so that you have the most up to date information for making informed decisions. Our guest is Dr. Danielle Brander (Duke University Cancer Institute). Website: [https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/taxonomy/term/151?gclid=Cj0KCQiAt8WOBhDbARIsANQLp94JjJT9DL\\_FtmDoHLgz8IRH4gyD0IZHwVECSpD2mJbly7lwxhUGlkoaApSuEALw\\_wcB](https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/taxonomy/term/151?gclid=Cj0KCQiAt8WOBhDbARIsANQLp94JjJT9DL_FtmDoHLgz8IRH4gyD0IZHwVECSpD2mJbly7lwxhUGlkoaApSuEALw_wcB)

## Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Education Resources

LLS provides excellent patient education materials, videos, webcasts, and drug information, as well as books on caregiving. Materials can be ordered for free or viewed online. (Available in various foreign languages)

Website: <http://www.lls.org/education-resources>

## Organizations

American Cancer Society (ACS) – Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

At the American Cancer Society, we're on a mission to free the world from cancer. Until we do, we'll be funding and conducting research, sharing expert information, supporting patients, and spreading the word about prevention. All so you can live longer — and better.

Website: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/acute-myeloid-leukemia/about/what-is-aml.html> | Phone Number: 800.227.2345

Cancer Support Community – Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

As the largest professionally led nonprofit network of cancer support worldwide, the Cancer Support Community is dedicated to ensuring that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community.

Website: <https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/acute-myeloid-leukemia> | Phone Number: 888-793-9355



## Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

Dedicated to curing leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, and other blood cancers, we are now The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), the world's largest voluntary (nonprofit) health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research and providing education and patient services. Website: <https://www.lls.org/leukemia/acute-myeloid-leukemia> | Phone Number: 800.955.4572

## Leukemia Research Foundation

In 1946, the Leukemia Research Foundation was established to memorialize 12-year-old Sherwin Pessin. Leukemia was a well-known but not well-understood disease. For Sherwin and thousands of other children and adults, there was no hope and no possibility for a cure. Website: <https://allbloodcancers.org/> | Phone Number: 847.424.0600

## Medline Plus: Trusted Health Information for You - Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

MedlinePlus is a service of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest medical library, which is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Website: <https://medlineplus.gov/acutemyeloidleukemia.html>

## National Cancer Institute- Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML)

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is the federal government's principal agency for cancer research and training. NCI is deeply committed to the core values of equity, diversity, and inclusion that allow all staff to reach their potential and fully contribute to the Institute's cancer mission. Website: <https://www.cancer.gov/types/leukemia/patient/adult-aml-treatment-pdq>

## National LGBT Cancer Network

The National LGBT Cancer Network works to improve the lives of LGBT cancer survivors and those at risk by: EDUCATING the LGBT community about our increased cancer risks and the importance of screening and early detection; TRAINING health care providers to offer more culturally-competent, safe and welcoming care; and ADVOCATING for LGBT survivors in mainstream cancer organizations, the media and research.

Website: <https://cancer-network.org/about/> | Phone Number: 212-675-2633

*This information is intended to offer credible and reliable education resources for patients who want to learn more about their diagnosis. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all resources available.*

