WARNING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS
Fatigue, weakness, lack of energy, loss of appetite, nausea, confusion and constipation are possible symptoms for the various types of hematological cancers.

HEMATOLOGICAL CANCERS
- Myeloma
- Acute myeloma leukemia
- Acute lymphocytic leukemia
- Chronic myeloid leukemia
- Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Myelodysplastic syndromes/
  Myeloproliferative neoplasms
- Other types of leukemia
- Plasma cell disorders
TREATMENT OPTIONS
Medical history, overall health, type of blood cancer, white cell count, cancer cell location and rate of disease progression will determine your treatment plan. After considering these, as well as other factors, your doctor will recommend one or more of the following treatment options:
- Watch and wait
- Chemotherapy and other drug therapies
- Radiation therapy
- Immunotherapy
- Vaccine therapy
- Stem cell transplantation
- Blood transfusion
- Palliative care
- Clinical trials

Blood and Marrow Transplantation
If your cancer does not respond to standard therapy, you may be treated with very intensive chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy, which requires complementary allogeneic or autologous stem cell transplantation.

Stem cell transplantation and chemotherapy or radiation therapy are used by transplant doctors to increase the chance of eliminating disease in the marrow and then restoring normal blood cell production. The infusion of stem cells from a closely matched donor, whether a sibling or unrelated donor, will begin to restore your marrow function and blood cell production. Some transplants rely on immune cells from the graft or donor infusion to suppress the underlying disease.

After several decades of research, discovery and clinical trials, allogeneic stem cell transplantation is now commonly used to successfully cure patients who are at high risk of relapse, do not respond fully to treatment or have relapsed following successful treatment. Autologous stem cells are obtained from your own blood or marrow.

The success of a transplant depends on appropriate timing, as opposed to other treatments. Rather than multiple chemotherapy or drug therapy over time, a transplant and earlier treatment often improves the likelihood of success and survival.

AM I AT RISK?
More men than women are diagnosed with leukemia and die of leukemia. It also causes nearly one-third of all cancer deaths in children and adolescents younger than 15 years of age.

Myeloma rarely occurs in people under age 45. The median age at diagnosis is 69 years. African Americans have a 120 percent greater chance of being diagnosed with myeloma than Caucasians.

For more information on risk factors, visit LLS.org.

DETECTION
Leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and myelodysplastic syndromes are types of hematological cancer that can affect blood cells, bone marrow, lymph nodes and other parts of the lymphatic system.

Lab and imaging tests are used to help detect hematological cancers. The tests most commonly used to diagnose and monitor these types of cancers include:
- Blood tests
- Bone marrow tests
- Imaging tests
- Lymph node biopsy
- Lumbar puncture
- Urine tests

DISEASE PREVALENCE
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society reports one person in the United States is diagnosed with a hematological cancer every three minutes. More than 1 million Americans are living with or are in remission from a blood cancer.

FranciscanHealth.org