

HAEMATOLOGY - ONCOLOGY

THINK A-G

Supporting earlier & faster cancer diagnosis

ACUTE LEUKAEMIA

Patients presenting with flu-like symptoms, anaemia, persistent fatigue, unexplained fever, unexplained bruising or bleeding, or other symptoms consistent with acute leukaemia, require a full blood count (FBC).



B

C

D

E

F

G

CHRONIC LEUKAEMIA

Chronic leukaemia is often incidentally found on a routine FBC. Patients don't always need treatment straight away.



REMEMBER: examine for an enlarged neck, axillary and groin lymph nodes and for an enlarged spleen.

EXAMINATION & BLOOD TESTS

Useful tests include FBC, serum free light chains and protein electrophoresis.

FAMILY HISTORY

Ask patients if they have a family history of cancer. However, blood cancer is not normally considered to be a hereditary disease.



FAST FACTS

BUMPS AND LUMPS

Persistent unexplained enlarged lymph nodes need investigating. Refer neck nodes to head and neck teams, axillary nodes to breast teams, and inguinal nodes on a non-specific pathway. All referrals should be sent as suspected cancer referrals.



TIP: alcohol-induced lymph node pain is a rare presentation of lymphoma.

DON'T FORGET MYELOMA

REMEMBER: C.R.A.B.

C – Calcium – hypercalcaemia

R – Renal – any form of renal dysfunction

A – Anaemia (of unknown cause)

B – Bone – unexplained and persistent bone pain (often back pain)



GREATER MANCHESTER REFERRAL PROFORMA

- Please refer all patients using the Greater Manchester form
- Ensure the patient understands the reason for referral
- Include frailty information as this helps direct patients to the most appropriate investigation or assessment

REFERRAL PROCESS FOR GREATER MCR

GM referral form
Examination
Bloods