



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Victoria Atkins MP
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

22 April 2024

Dear Victoria,

I am writing on behalf of constituents who have contacted me about Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) World Awareness Day.

AML is a type of blood cancer that can affect anyone of any age, though it is most common in people aged 60 and over. Leukaemia UK state that common symptoms include fatigue, bruising or bleeding, and repeated infections. Other symptoms include feeling weak or breathless, fever or night sweats, and bone or joint pain. 'Acute' indicates that the disease may progress very quickly, and usually requires immediate treatment – most patients will have intensive chemotherapy, with some offered a stem cell transplant.

According to Leukaemia UK:

- *More than 3,000 people are diagnosed with AML in the UK every year – more than eight people every day.*
- *In the UK, 42% of all cases are diagnosed in people aged 75 or over.*
- *Survival rates from AML are among the lowest for all cancers – only 13.6% of those diagnosed survive more than five years, compared to an average of 54.3% for cancer overall.*

You may be aware that AML has one of the lowest survival rates of all cancers, with only 13.6% of people surviving for more than five years after diagnosis.

On the 21 April 2024, individuals and organisations from around the world came together to help raise awareness of AML.

Leukaemia UK want to ensure that the next person diagnosed with AML has the best possible diagnosis, treatment, and care. I would be grateful if you would consider meeting with Leukaemia UK to discuss how you can support their mission to stop leukaemia devastating lives.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
Knowsley