

Lymphoma

Lymphoma is a group of blood cancers that develop in the lymphatic system, which is designed to help rid the body of toxins, waste and other unwanted materials.

What is lymphoma?

Lymphoma is a cancer that starts in white blood cells called lymphocytes. There are two main types of lymphoma:



Non-Hodgkin lymphoma
Reed-Sternberg cells are not present



Hodgkin lymphoma
Classified by the presence of abnormal cells called Reed-Sternberg cells

The major sites of lymph tissue are:

- Lymph nodes
- Spleen
- Bone marrow
- Thymus
- Adenoids and tonsils
- Digestive tract

Lymphoma can start wherever there is lymph tissue, though it most often starts in lymph nodes in the upper part of the body, like the **chest, neck** or **under the arms**.



Global incidence

948,600+

Almost one million new cases of lymphoma are expected to occur globally in 2045.

8×

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma is more common than Hodgkin lymphoma. It's expected there will be nearly 8 times as many new cases of NHL than HL by 2045.

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma

843,162

New cases expected in 2045

Hodgkin lymphoma

105,438

New cases expected in 2045

SOURCE: GLOBOCAN 2022

Risk factors

Lymphoma risk may increase in the presence of these factors:



Men



Close relatives who have had lymphoma or another type of blood cancer



Weakened immune systems

HL risk may increase in the presence of these factors:



Infectious mononucleosis



Early adulthood (20s) and late adulthood (55+)

NHL risk may increase in the presence of these factors:



Mid to late adulthood (50+)



Exposure to radiation or certain chemicals

Signs & symptoms

Symptoms of lymphoma may include:



Enlarged lymph nodes



Itchy skin



Loss of appetite



Chest pain or trouble breathing

Non-specific symptoms, also known as B symptoms, may include:



Unexplained weight loss



Fever



Night sweats

Treatment options

A patient's treatment options are largely dependent on the type and stage of their lymphoma. Treatment options for lymphoma may include:



Chemotherapy



Radiation



Stem cell transplant



Targeted therapy



Immunotherapy

It is important for people with lymphoma to understand the symptoms of their disease and to talk to a healthcare professional about appropriate treatment options.