Leukaemia

- Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia
  - Malignancy if lymphoid cells affecting B or T cells lines
  - Commonest cancer of childhood, rare in adults
  - Upto 90% cure rate for children, 35% in adults
  - Supportive care: blood, platelets
  - Treatment
    - Neutropenic regimen to tackle dangerous risk of infection
    - Chemo
- Acute Myeloid Leukaemia
  - Neoplastic proliferation of blast cells
  - Incidence rises with age
  - 20% 3 year survival after chemo
  - Allogenic bone marrow transplants are effective but risky
- Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia
  - Uncontrolled clonal proliferation of myeloid cells
  - Typical presentation 40 - 60 years
  - Philadelphia chromosome in > 80% of CML cases
  - Progression
    - Chronic phase (months to years)
    - Accelerated phase - increasing symptoms
    - Blast transformation
      - Development of acute leukaemia
      - Refractory to treatment
      - Median survival of 6 months
  - S&S
    - Symptoms: chronic and generalised (weight loss, fatigue), gout (due to purine breakdown), bleeding (platelet dysfunction), adbo discomfort
    - Signs: massive splenomegaly, hepatomegaly, anaemia
  - Treatment
    - Treatment
      - Effective in preventing disease progression in chronic phase
    - Stem Cell Transplantation
      - First line treatment in younger patients
      - Allogenic transplant is only known cure (very risky)