



**Keith W. Pratz, MD**

Assistant Professor of Oncology  
Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore, Maryland

**What are the diagnostic requirements for acute myeloid leukemia?**

Welcome to *Managing AML*. I am Dr. Keith Pratz. I am frequently asked, “What are the diagnostic requirements for acute myeloid leukemia?” The diagnostic requirements for acute myeloid leukemia are a finding of greater than 20% myeloblasts in the blood or the bone marrow; in certain subtypes of acute myeloid leukemia, such as translocation 8;21 and inversion 16, the current WHO (World Health Organization) criteria allow for the diagnosis of acute myeloid leukemia to be made in patients who have fewer than 20% blasts; and a recent revision to the WHO criteria has slightly changed the diagnosis for pure erythroid leukemia to require those patients to have greater than 20% blasts irrespective of the erythroid component of the bone marrow. In general, greater than 20% blasts is required for acute myeloid leukemia diagnosis, except in certain genetic subtypes such as translocation 8;21 and inversion 16. Thank you for reviewing this activity.