5 Things You Should Know ABOUT SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

1 Genetic Basis and Inheritance

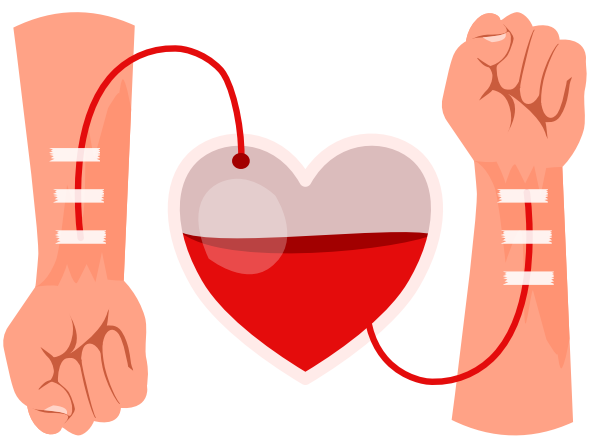
Sickle cell anemia is an inherited blood disorder caused by a mutation in the HBB gene, which affects the production of hemoglobin, the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen. It follows an autosomal recessive inheritance pattern

2 Symptoms and Complications

- Severe pain episode
- Anemia
- Swelling in hands and feet
- frequent infection
- Delay in growth and puberty

3 Early Diagnosis is Important

Early diagnosis through newborn screening programs is crucial for managing sickle cell anemia effectively. Early intervention with antibiotics, vaccinations, and regular medical check-ups can prevent severe complications such as infections and stroke.



4 Current Treatment

- There is no universal cure for sickle cell anemia
- Hydroxyurea is commonly used to reduce the frequency of pain crises and the need for blood transfusions.
- Blood transfusions and bone marrow transplants also help

5 Living with Sickle Cell Anemia

With proper care and treatment, many children with sickle cell anemia can lead relatively normal lives. It is important to maintain regular medical follow-ups, adhere to treatment plans, and adopt healthy lifestyle habits.