

Care CEUs

Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)

1. A nurse is caring for a pregnant patient who expresses concern that their baby will have sickle cell disease. What education can the nurse provide to the patient regarding options for testing for sickle cell disease?

- A. Sickle cell disease can only be detected in adults
- B. Routine newborn screenings in the United States test for sickle cell disease
- C. Testing for sickle cell disease requires a urine sample
- D. Sickle cell disease can only be detected in newborns

2. Which type of sickle cell disease is the most common and most severe?

- A. HbSD
- B. HbS beta thalassemia
- C. HbSS
- D. HbSC

3. A nurse is caring for an infant diagnosed with sickle cell disease. According to the CDC, what complication is the leading cause of death in young children with sickle cell disease?

- A. Stroke
- B. Kidney failure
- C. Aplastic crisis
- D. Infection

4. A parent brings in their 10-month-old child to the emergency room. The parent reports the baby has been very fussy throughout the day and has swelling in the hands and feet. The parent reports the child was diagnosed with sickle cell disease as a newborn but has never had any complications. As the nurse, which complication of sickle cell disease do you believe the patient is now experiencing?

- A. Dactylitis
- B. Deep vein thrombosis
- C. Cholelithiasis
- D. Acute chest syndrome

5. Which factor can increase the risk for a vaso-occlusive crisis in patients with sickle cell disease?

- A. Obesity
- B. Low altitude

- C. Increased age
- D. Dehydration

6. A nurse is teaching a course to nursing students about sickle cell crises. Which type of sickle cell crisis is caused by the rapid destruction of red blood cells?

- A. Vaso-occlusive crisis
- B. Hemolytic crisis
- C. Aplastic crisis
- D. Splenic sequestration crisis

7. A 30-year-old patient has been taking Hydroxyurea for over a year for the treatment of sickle cell disease. Which is an indication that the medication is working successfully?

- A. The patient has needed fewer blood transfusions over the past year
- B. The patient has increased their opioid medication use over the past year
- C. The patient has experienced decreased hemoglobin levels over the past year
- D. The patient has experienced an increase in vaso-occlusive crises in the past year

8. A patient with sickle cell disease wants to know if they are a candidate for a stem cell transplant. The nurse explains that the patient must meet which indication for a stem cell transplant?

- A. History of cholelithiasis
- B. History of severe sickle cell anemia
- C. Risk of vision loss
- D. Complications during pregnancy

9. A nurse is caring for a patient with sickle cell disease admitted for a vaso-occlusive crisis. Which statement by the patient indicates they understand ways to prevent vaso-occlusive crises in the future?

- A. "I will limit my fluid intake to 800 mL per day."
- B. "A cold shower can help relieve my pain during a vaso-occlusive crisis."
- C. "I will avoid traveling to places with high altitude."
- D. "Regular high intensity exercise can help prevent vaso-occlusive crises."

10. A nurse is teaching a course to nursing students about sickle cell disease. Which statement indicates the students understand how sickle cell disease is inherited?

- A. "If the child inherits the sickle cell gene from one parent and a normal hemoglobin gene from the other parent, they will have sickle cell disease."
- B. "Both parents must have sickle cell disease to pass it to their children."
- C. "If neither parent has the sickle cell gene, the child can still inherit sickle cell disease."
- D. "Children must inherit a sickle cell gene from each parent to have sickle cell disease."

Copyright © 2026 Care CEUs

Visit us at <https://www.careceus.com>