

Sickle Cell Disease

Managing Pain



Sickle cell disease has no widely available cure. However, treatments can help with your pain. Good health care is important for people with sickle cell disease, so see your doctor regularly and talk to him or her about a pain control plan that makes sense for you.

Mild pain is often treated at home. More severe pain may need to be treated in a clinic or hospital.



Fluids can help by preventing dehydration.



Over-the-counter pain medicine can help with mild-to-moderate pain.



Stronger medicines called opioids might be needed for more severe pain.



Ask your doctor about a medicine called hydroxyurea for sickle cell disease.

