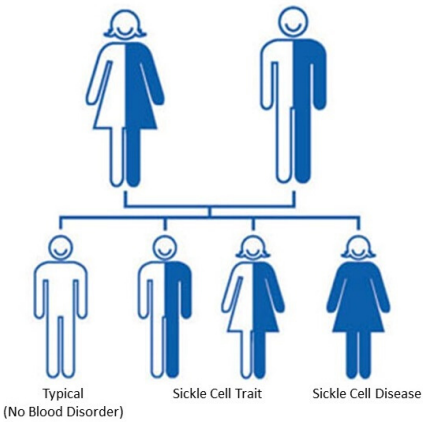
Sickle Sabbath

Sickle Cell Disease Association of America Michigan Chapter, Inc.



SICKLE CELL STARTS WITH SICKLE CELL TRAIT

Sickle cell is an inherited blood disorder caused by an abnormal type of hemoglobin. Normal blood cells are disc-shaped and carry oxygen to the body. But the crescent-shaped cells in sickle cell disease can't move easily through blood vessels, which affects the oxygen supply. Sickle cells can't carry oxygen properly because when they release oxygen, it sticks together and changes the shape of the red blood cell. **The effects of sickle cell disease (SCD)** include chronic vascular damage, anemia, organ damage, and excruciating pain. **If both parents have sickle cell trait, EACH child has a 25% chance of being born with sickle cell disease.**

INHERITANCE & IMPLICATIONS OF SICKLE CELL TRAIT

KNOW THE IMPLICATIONS

Anyone, regardless of ethnicity or race, can carry sickle cell trait. Not only can the trait impact your chances of having a child with SCD, research shows that trait can impact student athletes as well as pregnancy, kidney function and vision in some people.

KNOW THE TYPES AT PLAY

Sickle cell trait can also combine with other types of hemoglobin to create a variety of mutations. These include Beta Thalassemia, Hemoglobin C, Hemoglobin D, Hemoglobin E and others.

KNOW YOUR STATUS

1 in 12 African Americans carries the sickle cell trait. Do you know whether you have the trait? What about your partner? Get tested to be certain. Talk to your family about your roots and your results.

WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW TO HELP CREATE CHANGE

DONATE

Sickle cell is often underfunded. You can help find a cure.

JOIN OUR WALK

Register. Raise money & consciousness. Start a team with family & friends.

ADVOCATE

Educate others. Become one of our ambassadors.

LEARN MORE

Visit us today at www.scdaami.org

Sickle Cell Disease Association of America - Michigan Chapter
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