

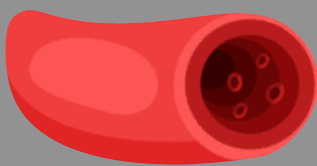
Learner Fact Sheet

SEPTEMBER IS
**SICKLE CELL
DISEASE (SCD)**
AWARENESS MONTH



2021

SCD patients are often under-treated for pain, and narcotic addictions are very rare.



SCD is an inflammatory vasculitis with progressive endothelial damage.

Acute Chest Syndrome is the leading cause of death.



For SCD patients, excess fluid can be detrimental, and is a leading cause of (iatrogenic) Acute Chest Syndrome.



Incidence of stroke in pediatric patients with SCD is **221x greater** than the general pediatric population.



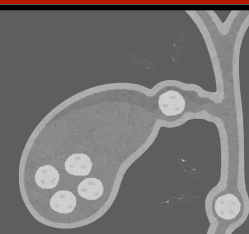
Yearly Transcranial Doppler studies are a tool for detecting children at risk for stroke.



The **average life expectancy** for those with the most severe form of SCD is

30 years

shorter than that of people without SCD.

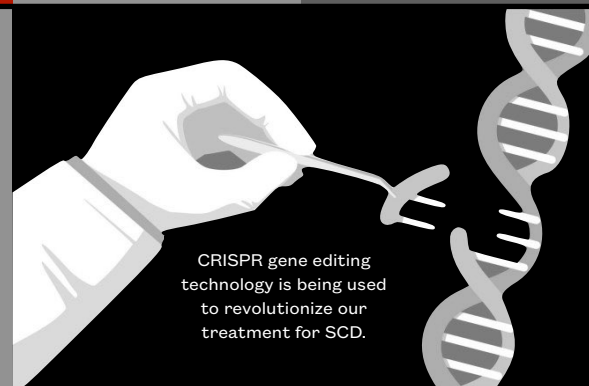


Pigmented gallstones are commonly found in teenagers and young adults with SCD.

Although countless studies and investigations have proved Sickle Cell Trait benign on its own, it has been cited in dozens of police custody deaths ruled accidental or natural.



By age 35, over half of SCD patients will have developed avascular necrosis of the hip(s).



CRISPR gene editing technology is being used to revolutionize our treatment for SCD.

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is the world's most common genetic disease, affecting approx. **100,000** Americans.

There are stark inequities in national funding for SCD research, treatment centers, and therapies.



*Example: Research funding for cystic fibrosis (CF) from the National Institutes of Health was **3.5x higher**, and funding from national foundations was **440x higher**, than for SCD — despite **CF affecting <1/3 the number of people**.*

Want to know more about ongoing efforts for SCD Awareness & Advocacy at Rush? Please email rushsicklecellteam@gmail.com. For more information about SCD, visit:

