

From Bench to Bedside: Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) and Pain

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Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is the most common genetic disorder of blood characterized by frequent & debilitating acute pain crises and chronic persistent pain. There is increased research interest on the interaction between biological, cognitive, and affective factors influencing onset, maintenance & resolution of chronic pains associated with SCD (Edwards et al., 2005). This talk will explore a promising and established treatment that has not been embraced by patients -- Hydroxyurea (HU), fear of movement (kinesiophobia), and premenstrual syndrome (PMS) as they relate to our clinical and scientific understandings of this multifaceted disorder. How this all fits into the Bio-Psych-Social Model, and our wider understanding of disease and treatment will be discussed.